PLUTO
URASAWA X TEZUKA
A NEW VISION BASED ON ASTRO BOY – 'THE GREATEST ROBOT ON EARTH'
BY NAOKI URASAWA AND OSAMU TEZUKA
CO-AUTHORED WITH TAKASHI NAGASAKI
SUPERVISED BY MACOTO TEZKA
WITH THE COOPERATION OF TEZUKA PRODUCTIONS

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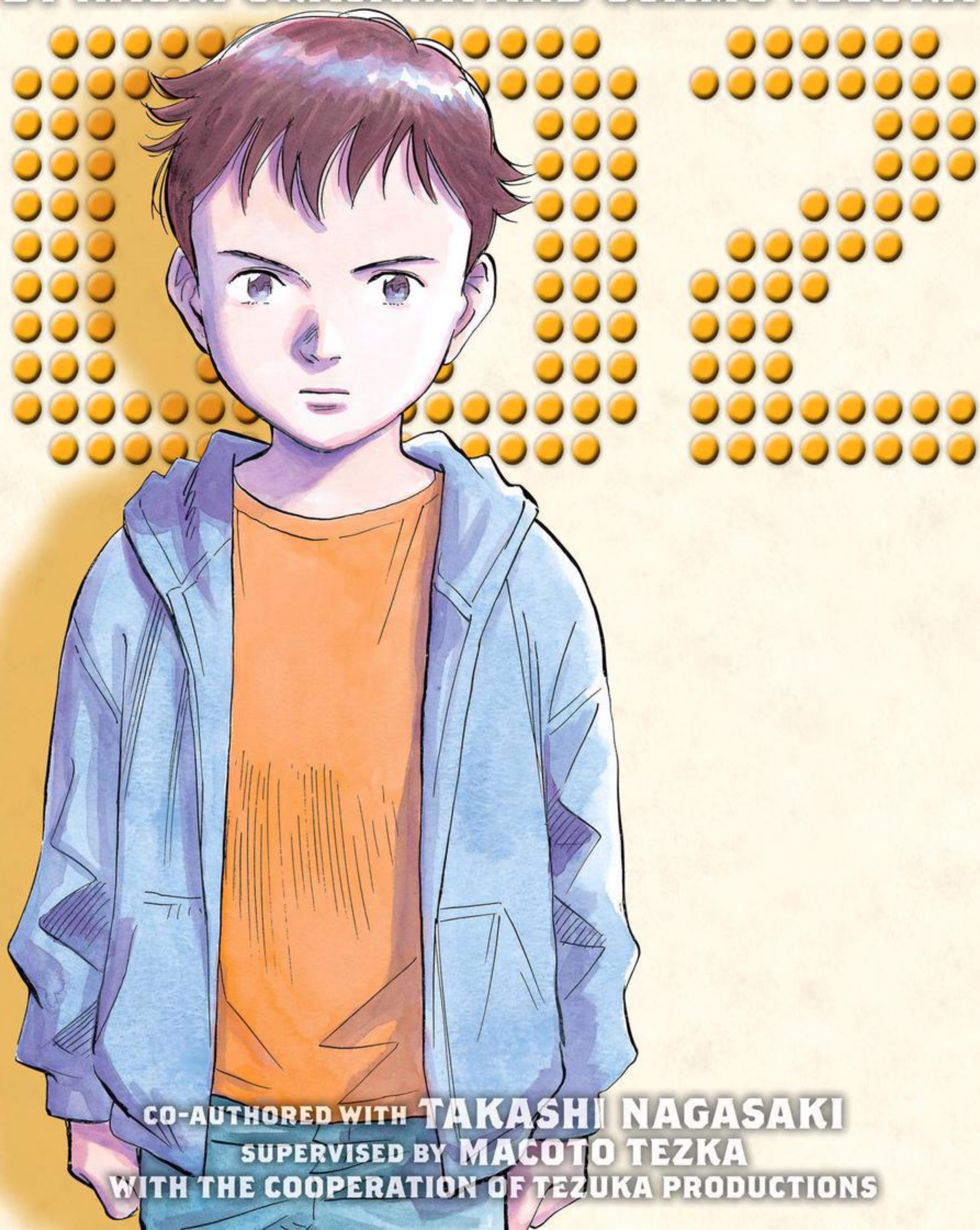

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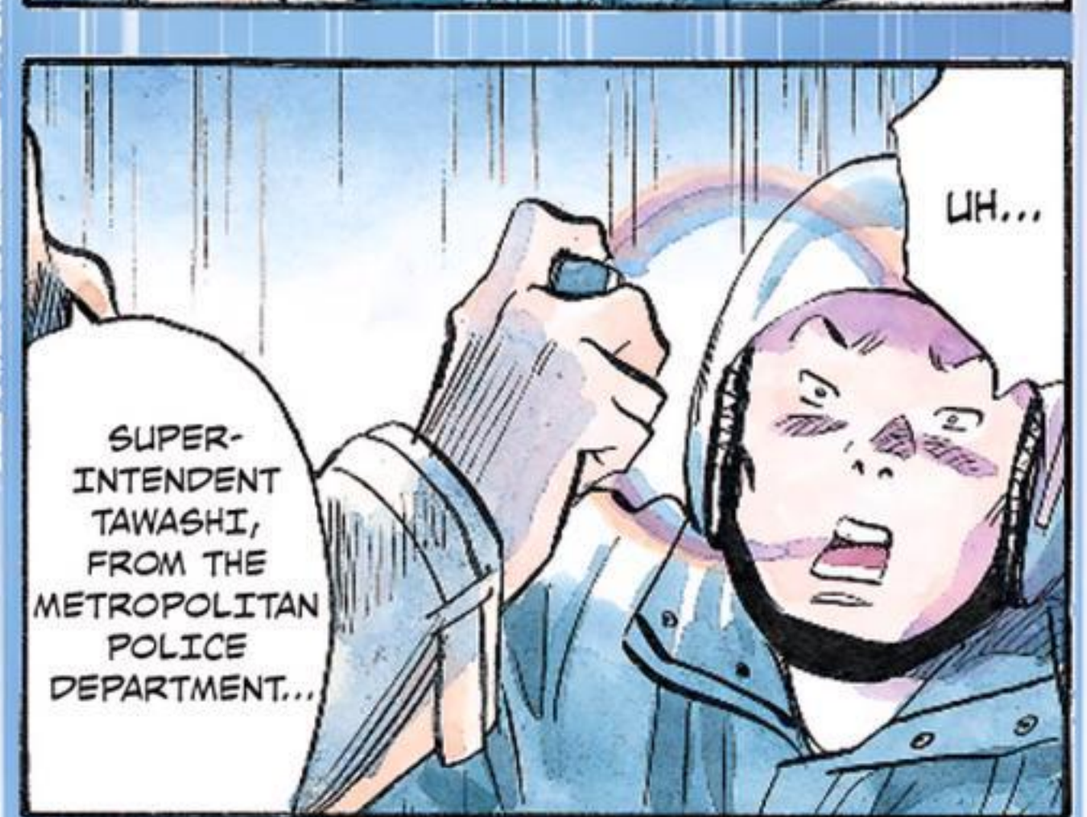
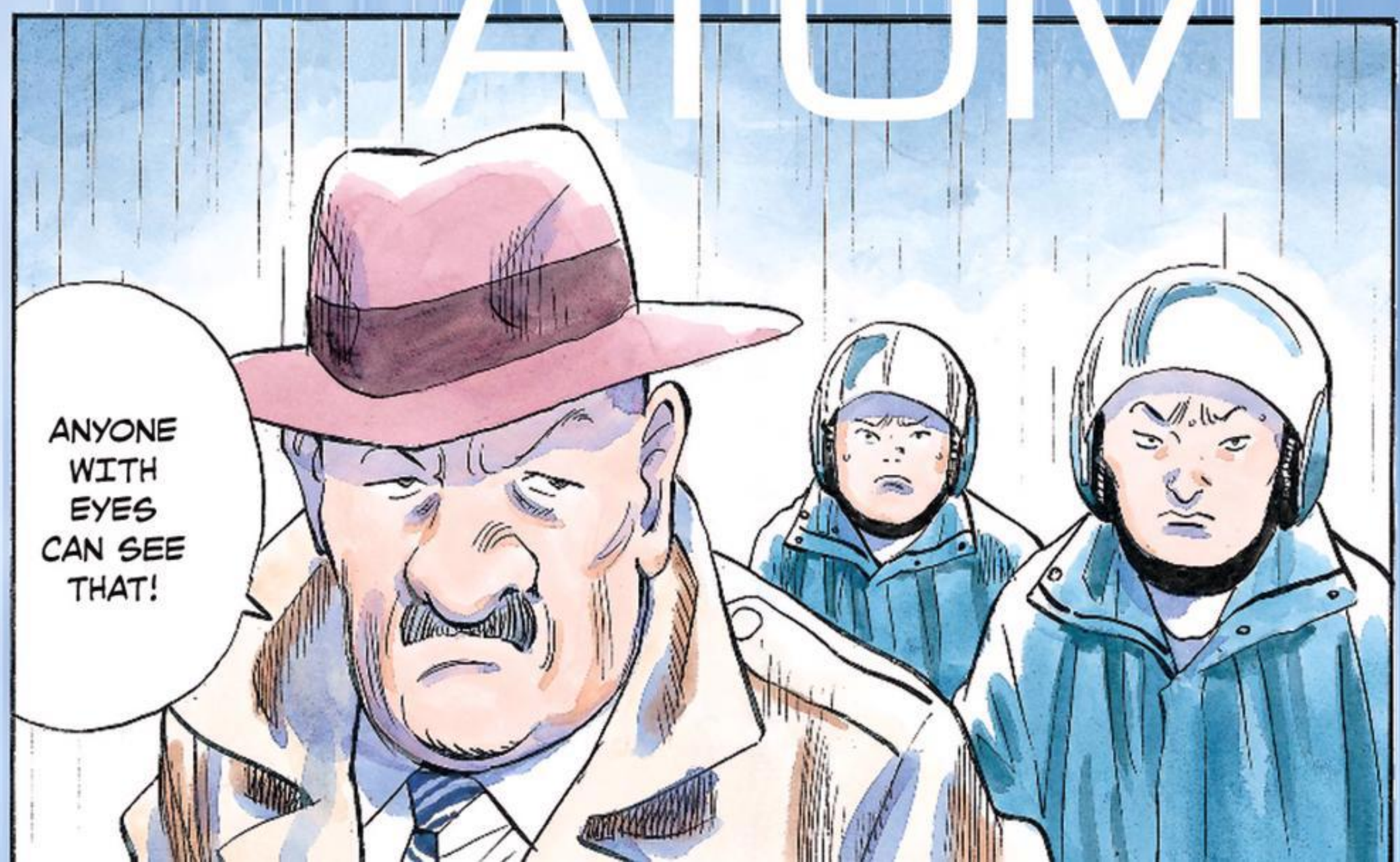
WEEOOH
WEEOOH
WEEOOH

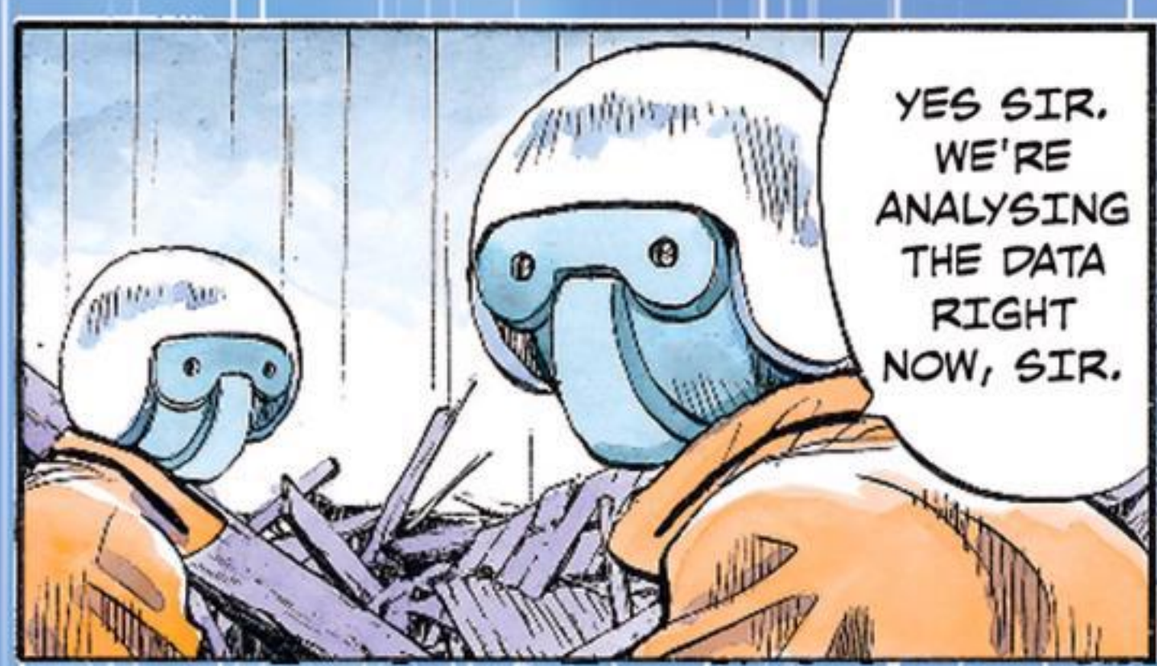
NO CROSSING THE POLICE LINE!
GET BACK! EVERYONE BACK!



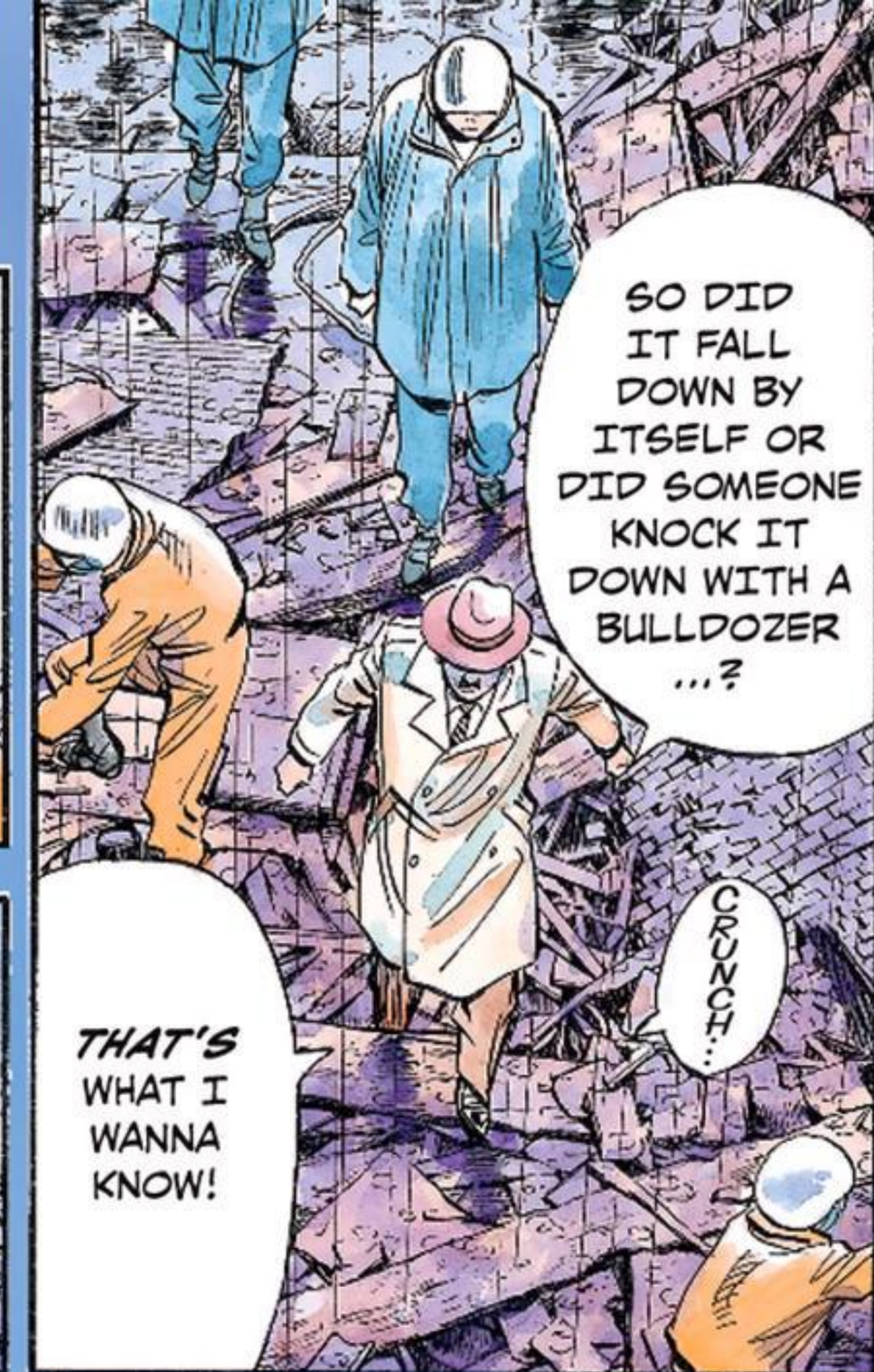
IT'S AN OLD-STYLE JAPANESE HOUSE THAT'S COLLAPSED, SIR...
POLICE
POLICE

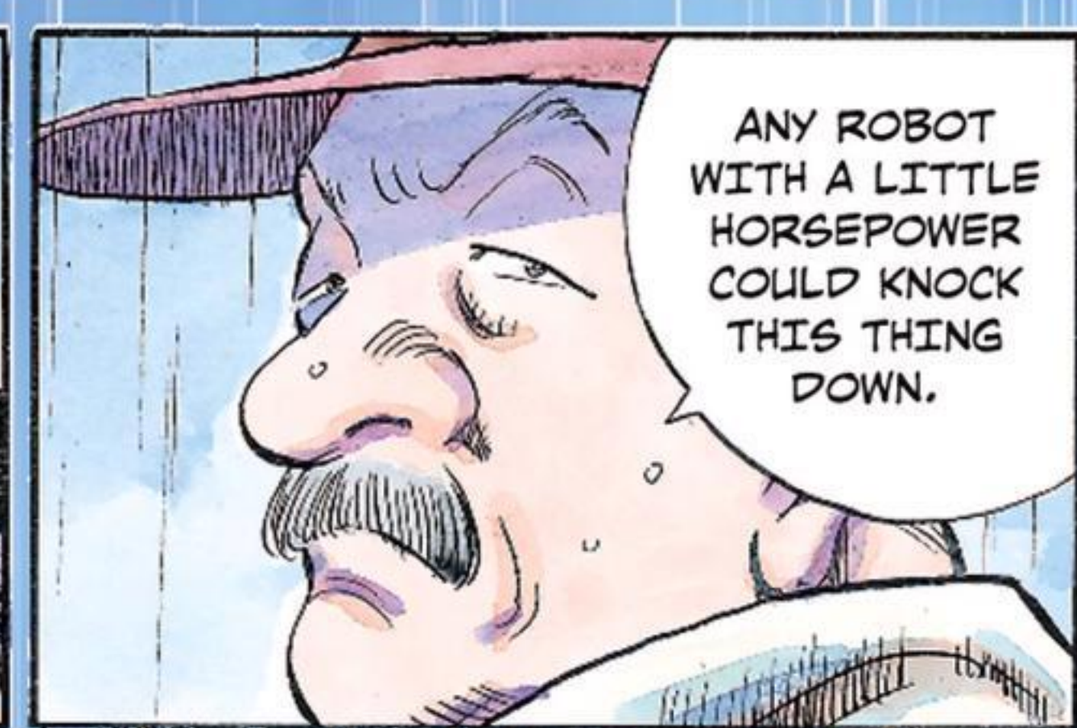
Act 8
ATOM


ANYONE WITH EYES CAN SEE THAT!

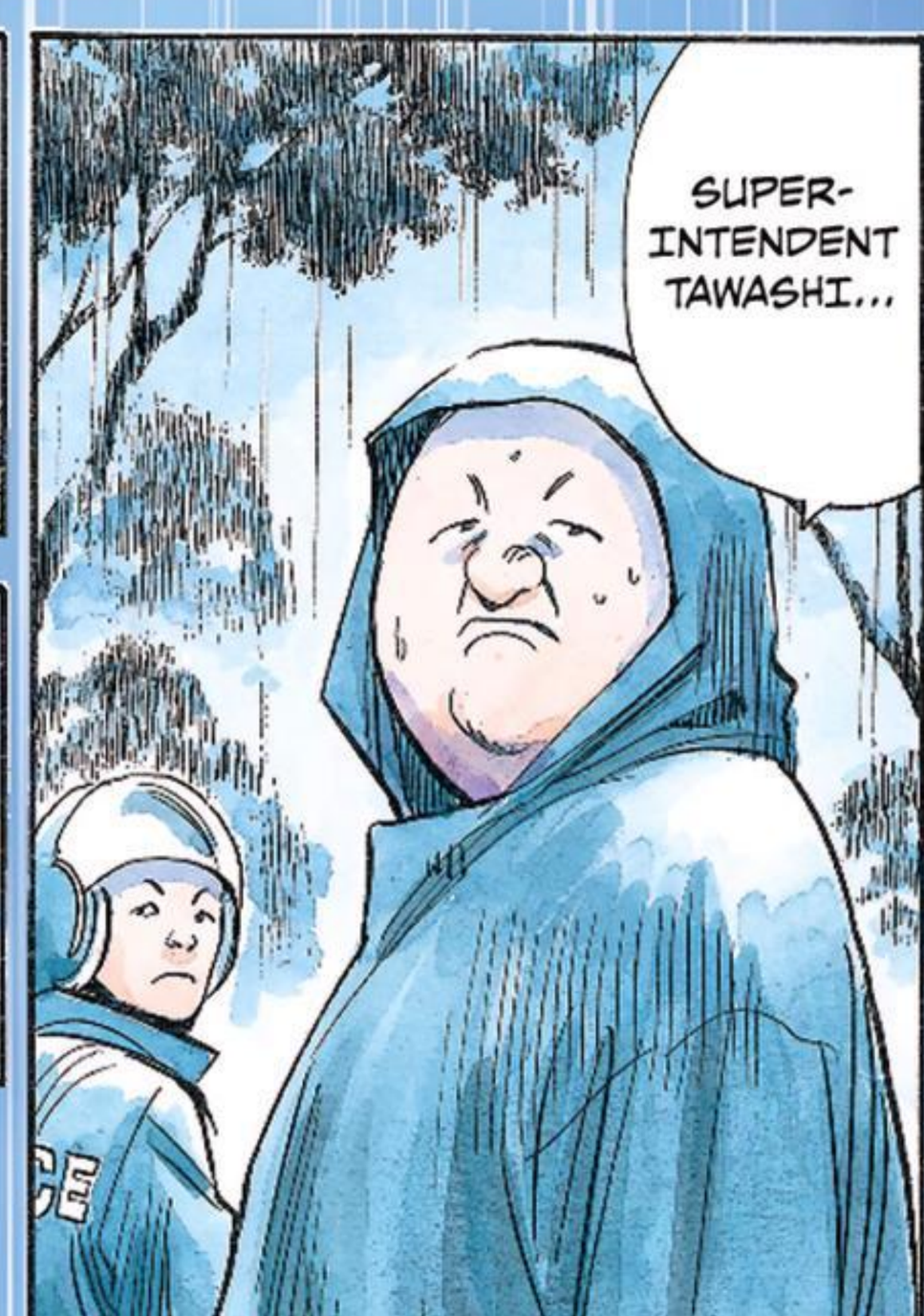

YES SIR. WE'RE ANALYSING THE DATA RIGHT NOW, SIR.

THIS IS THE SORT OF THING YOU GUYS CAN DO, RIGHT?


SO DID IT FALL DOWN BY ITSELF OR DID SOMEONE KNOCK IT DOWN WITH A BULLDOZER ...?
CRUNCH...
THAT'S WHAT I WANNA KNOW!


ANY ROBOT WITH A LITTLE HORSEPOWER COULD KNOCK THIS THING DOWN.

LOOK OVER HERE...
WELL, WELL... INSPECTOR NAKAMURA... YOU GOT HERE QUICK.

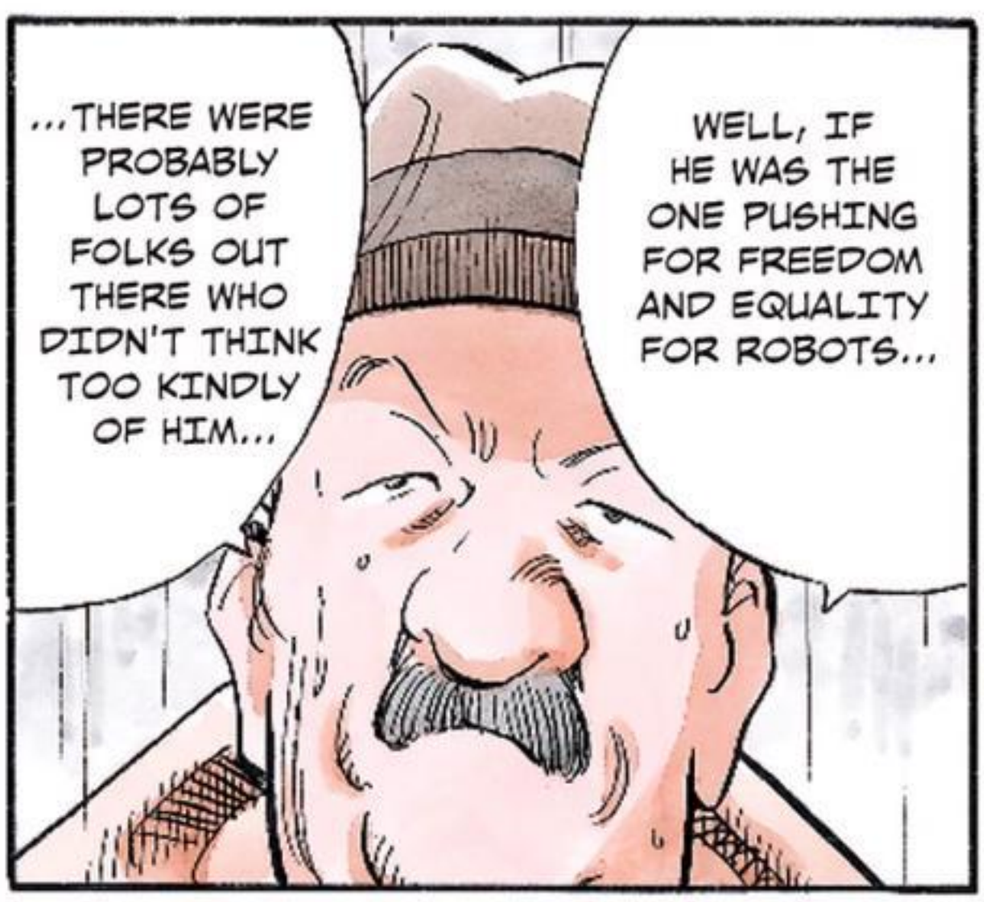

SUPER-INTENDENT TAWASHI...

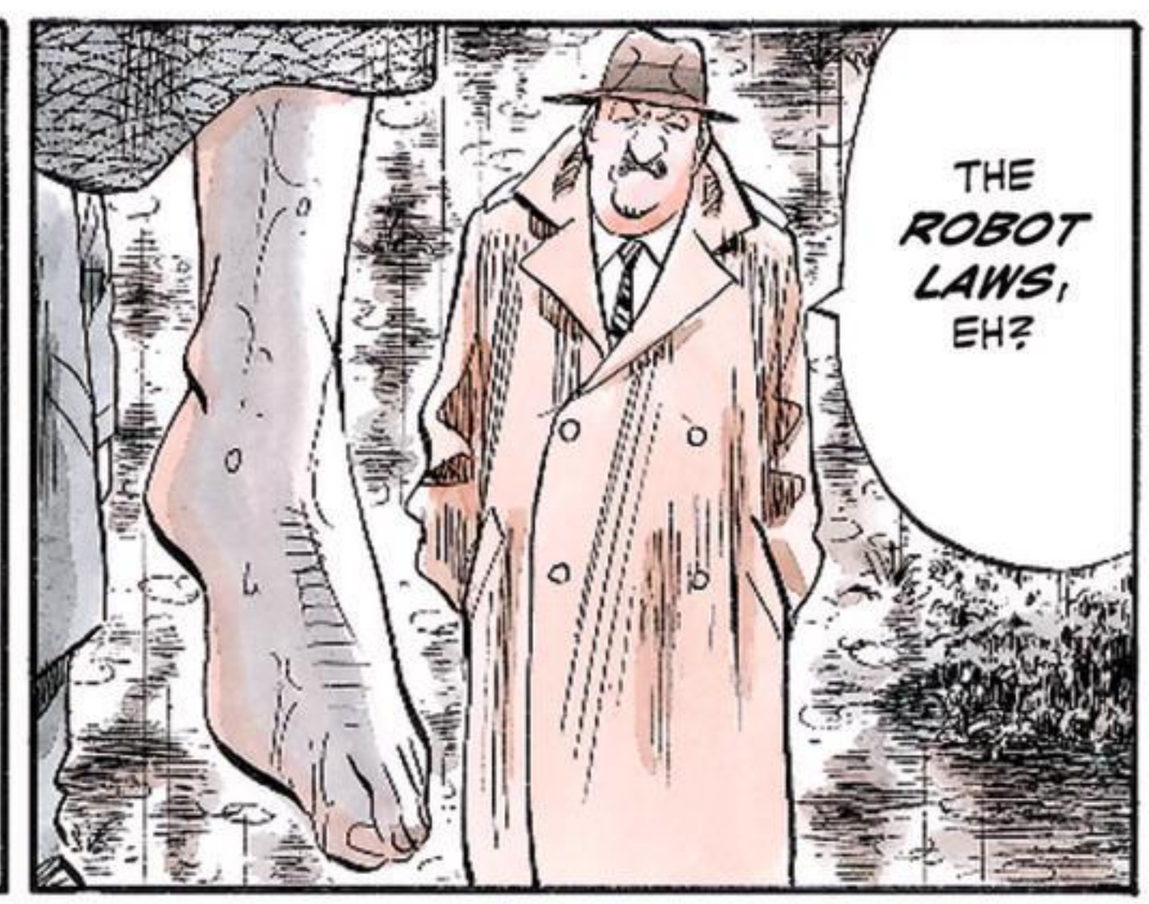
WHAT IN THE NAME OF...

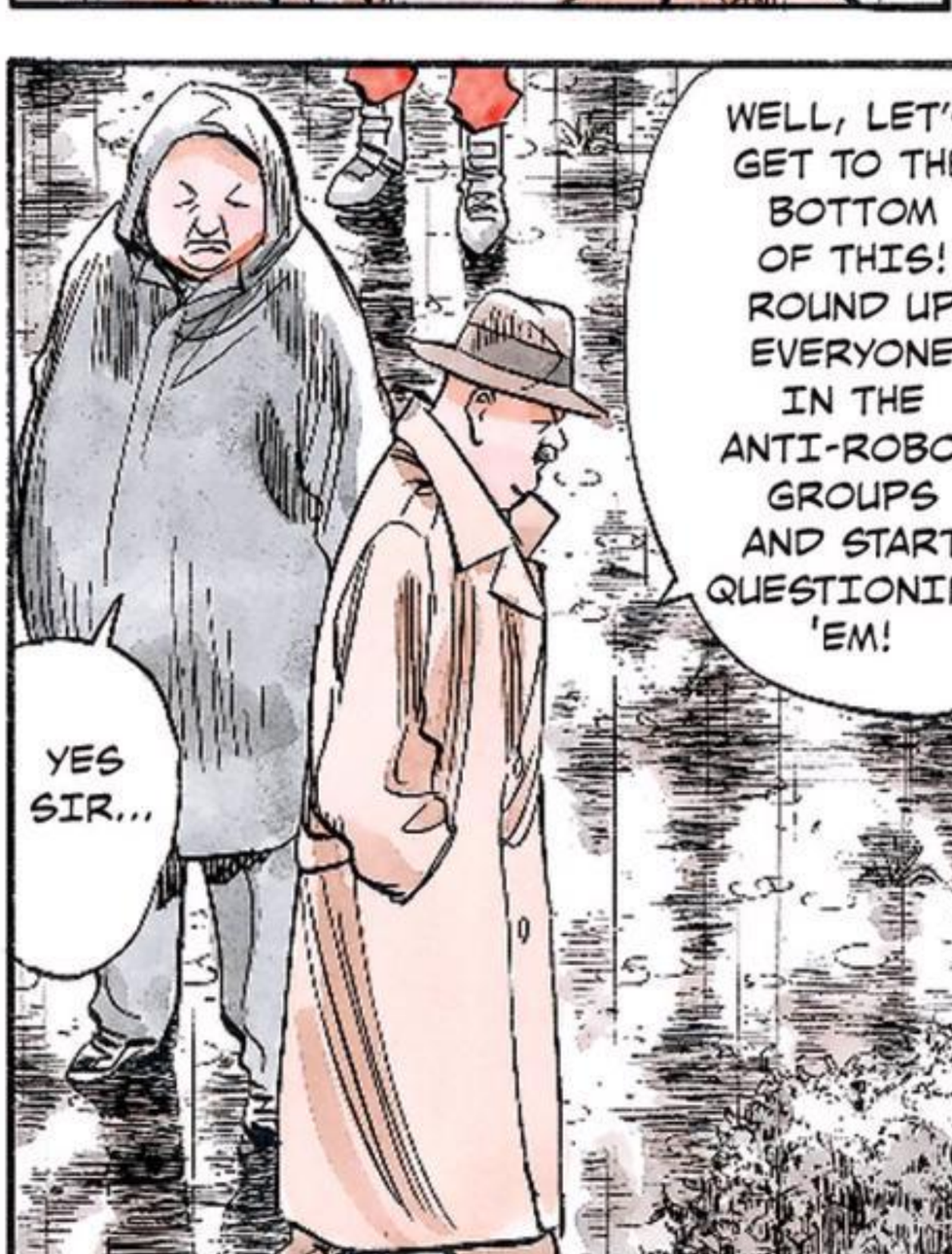
PROFESSOR OF *LAW*?

NAME'S JUNICHIRO TASAKI... A PROFESSOR OF LAW...
SO WHO'S THE VICTIM?

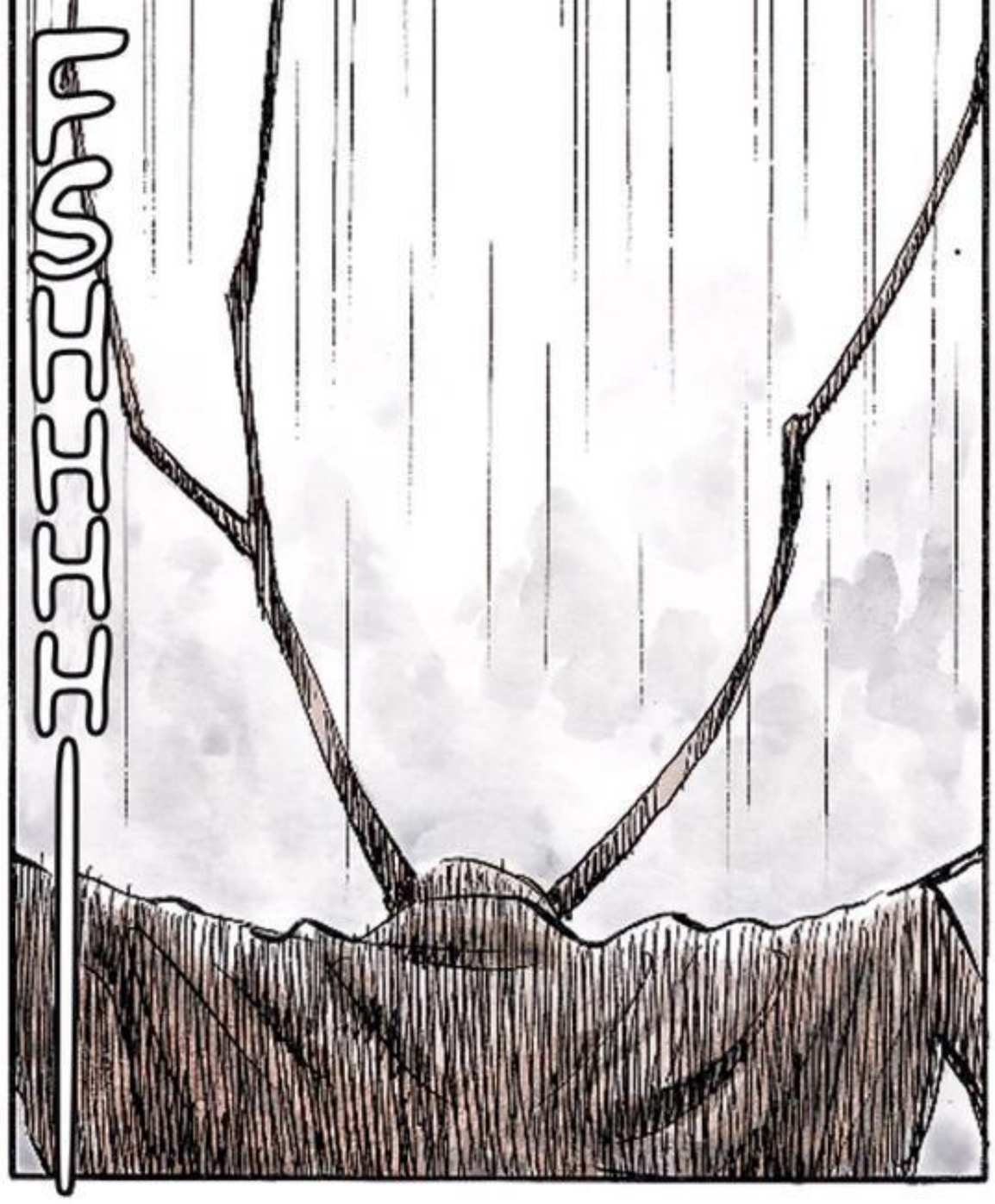
RIGHT. CAME UP WITH THE IDEA OF THE INTER-NATIONAL ROBOT LAWS...

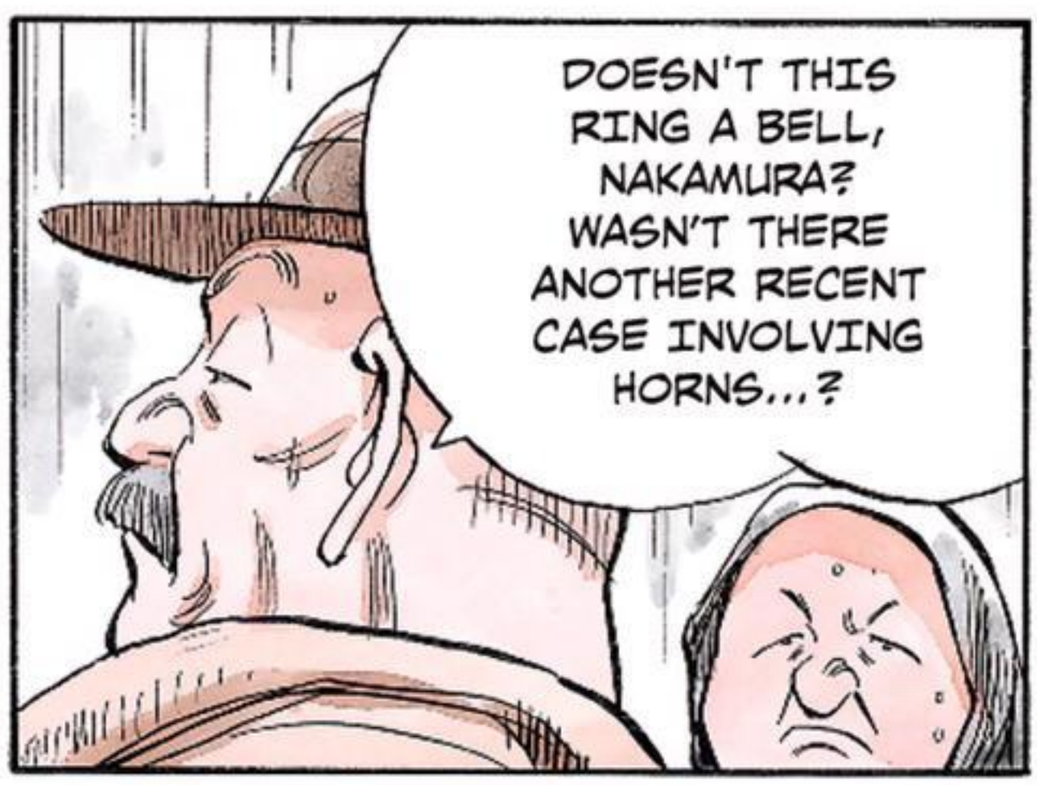

...THERE WERE PROBABLY LOTS OF FOLKS OUT THERE WHO DIDN'T THINK TOO KINDLY OF HIM...
WELL, IF HE WAS THE ONE PUSHING FOR FREEDOM AND EQUALITY FOR ROBOTS...

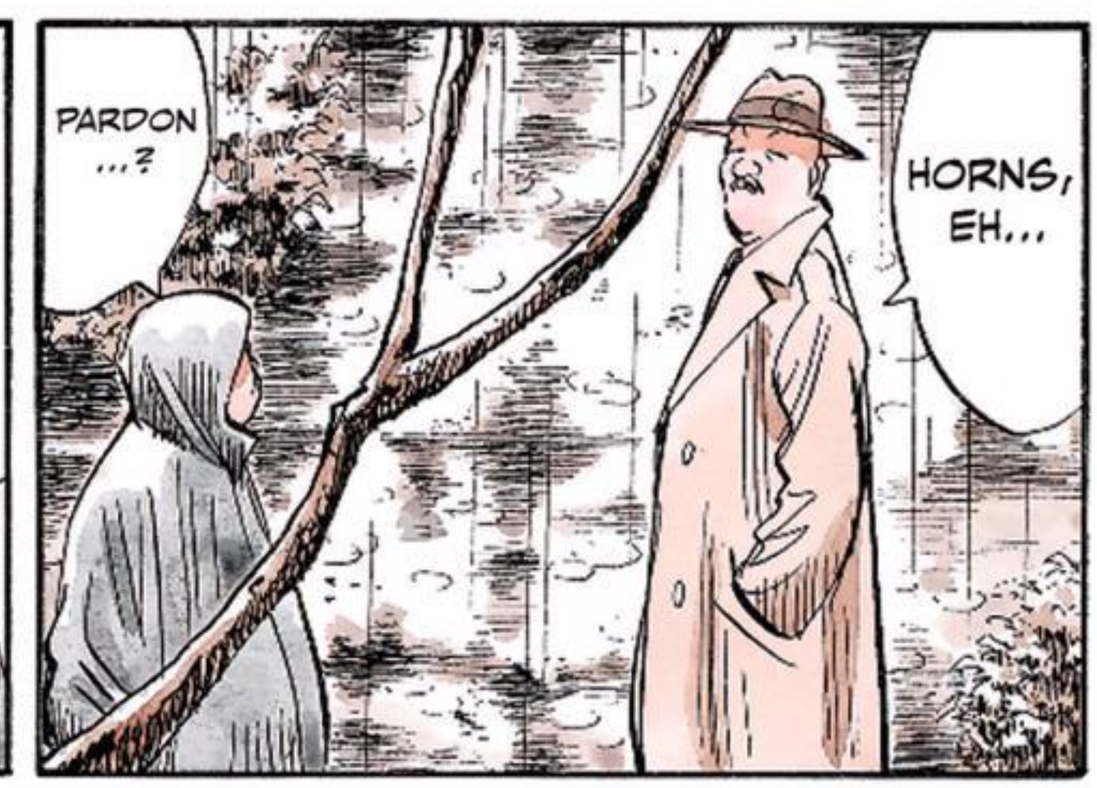

THE *ROBOT LAWS*, EH?


WELL, LET'S GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS! ROUND UP EVERYONE IN THE ANTI-ROBOT GROUPS AND START QUESTIONING 'EM!
YES SIR...

...
...MYSELF INCLUDED...

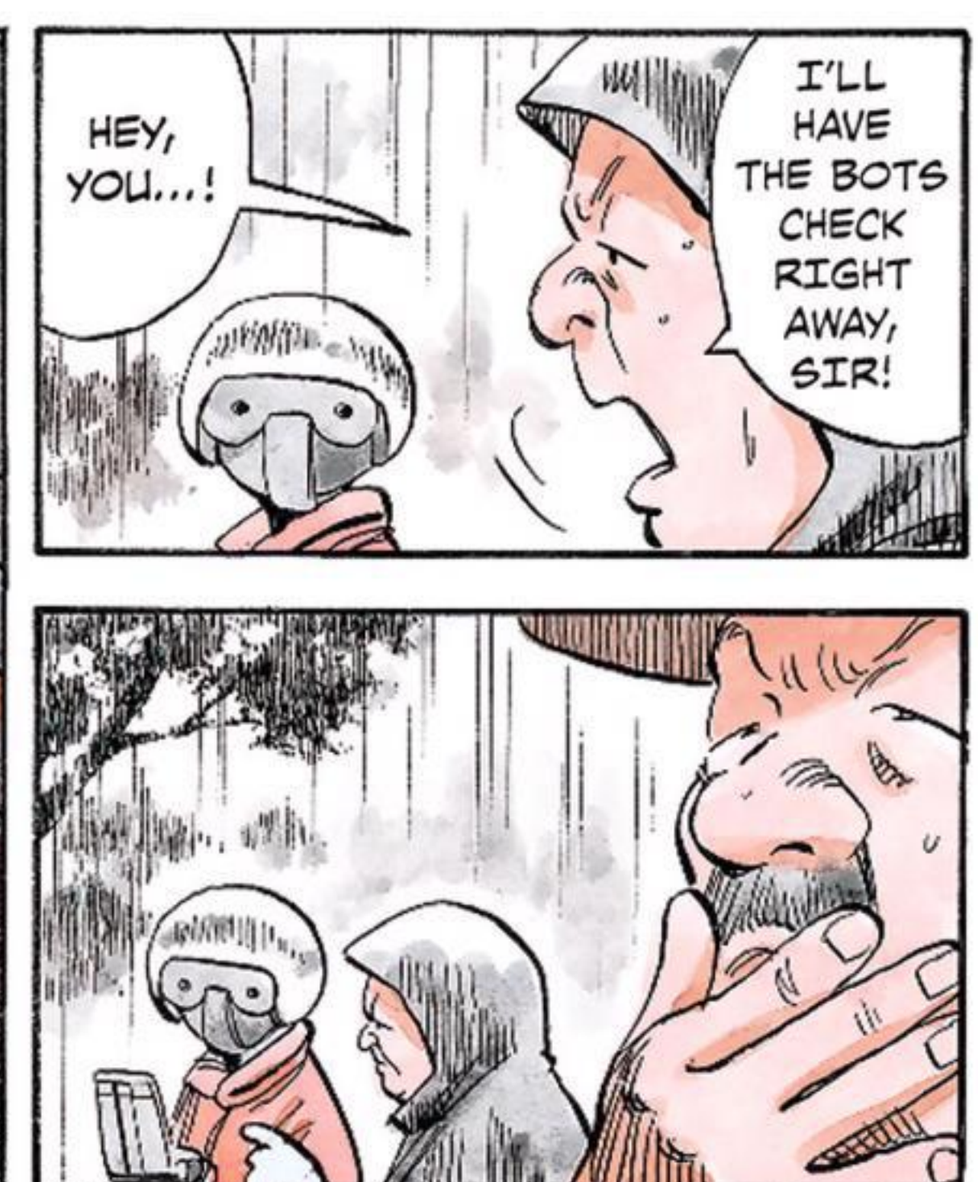


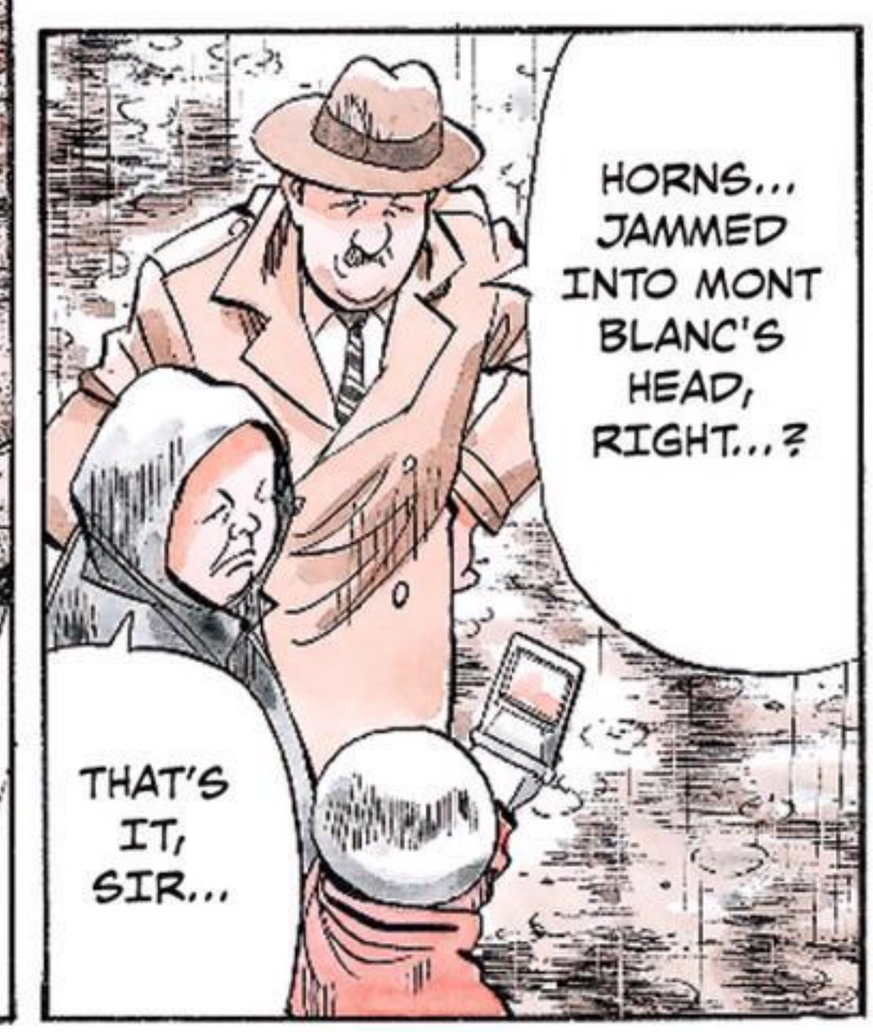

DOESN'T THIS RING A BELL, NAKAMURA? WASN'T THERE ANOTHER RECENT CASE INVOLVING HORNS...?

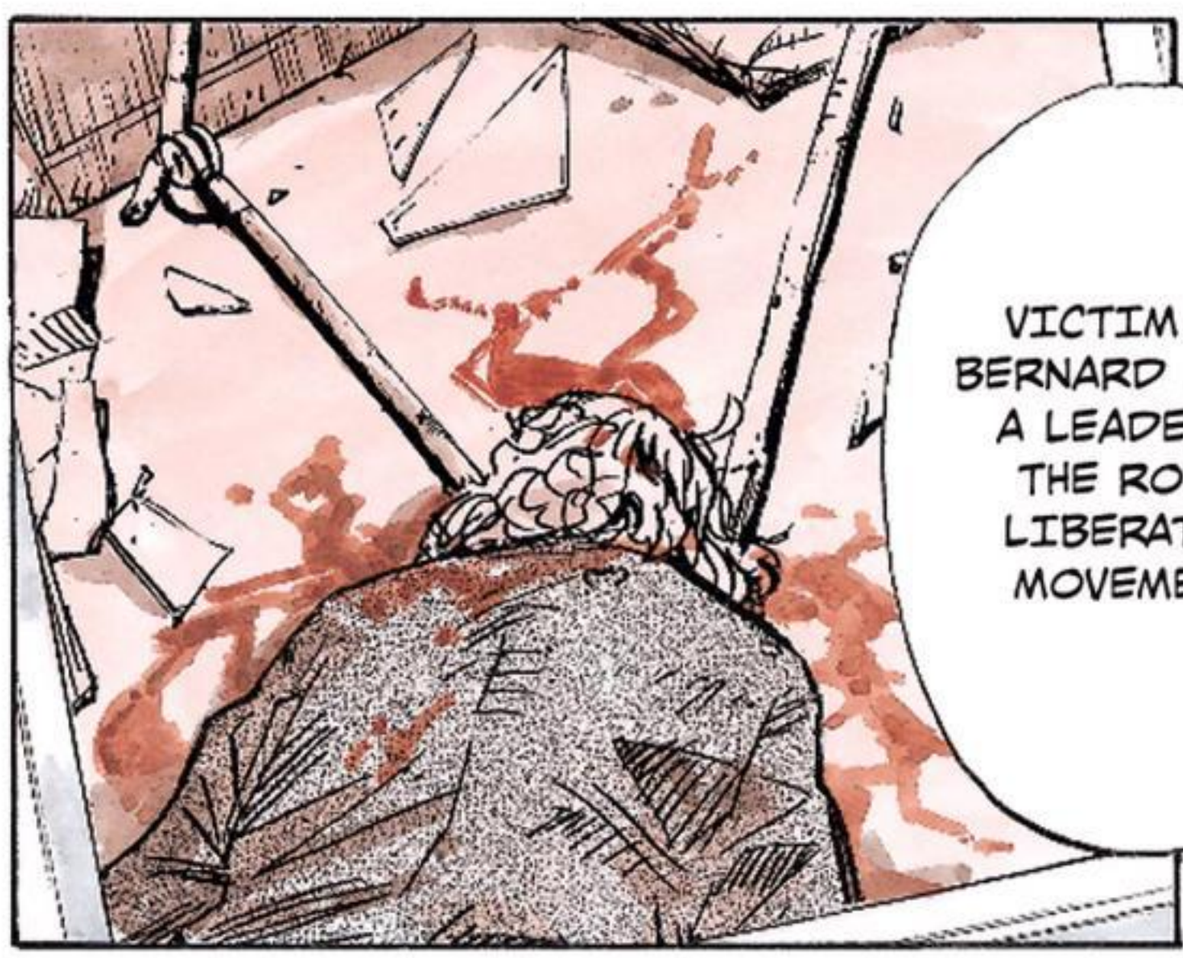

PARDON ...?
HORNS, EH...

SWITZER-LAND! YEAH, *THAT'S* IT!

YOU'RE RIGHT, BOSS... TWO INCIDENTS– ONE IN SWITZERLAND AND ONE IN GERMANY...


HEY, YOU...!
I'LL HAVE THE BOTS CHECK RIGHT AWAY, SIR!

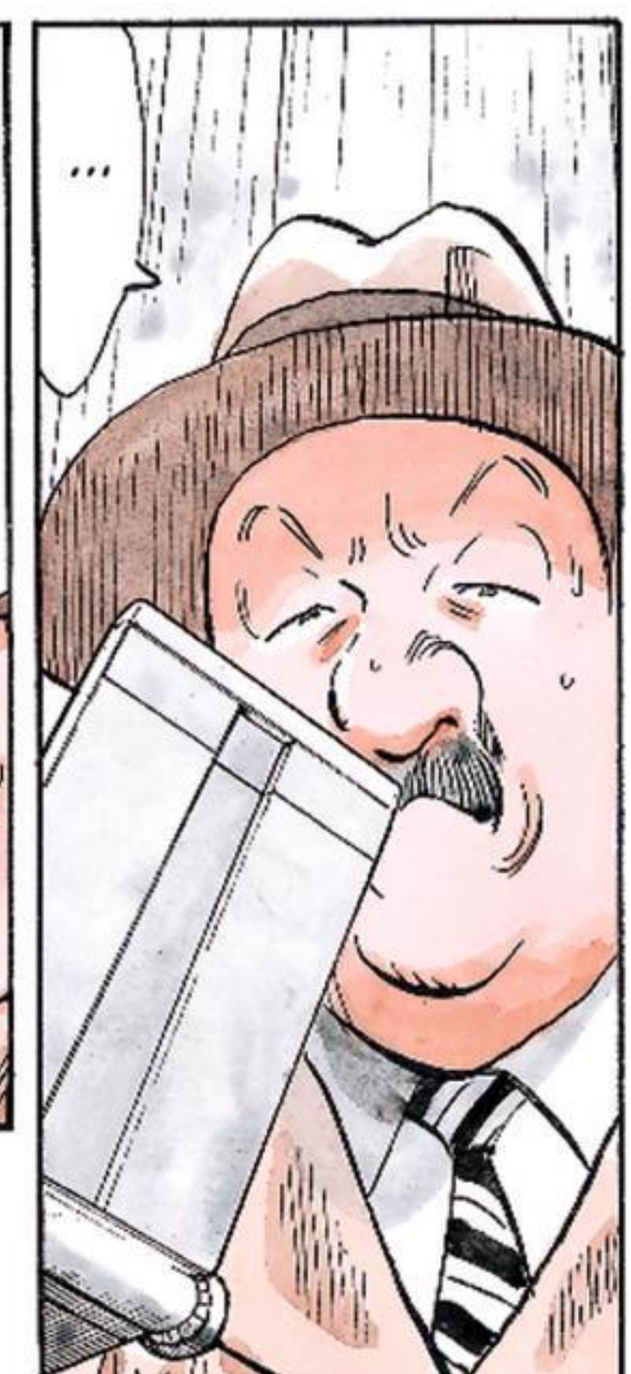

HORNS... JAMMED INTO MONT BLANC'S HEAD, RIGHT...?
THAT'S IT, SIR...


VICTIM WAS BERNARD LANKE, A LEADER IN THE ROBOT LIBERATION MOVEMENT...

THE OTHER ONE WAS IN DÜSSELDORF, GERMANY...

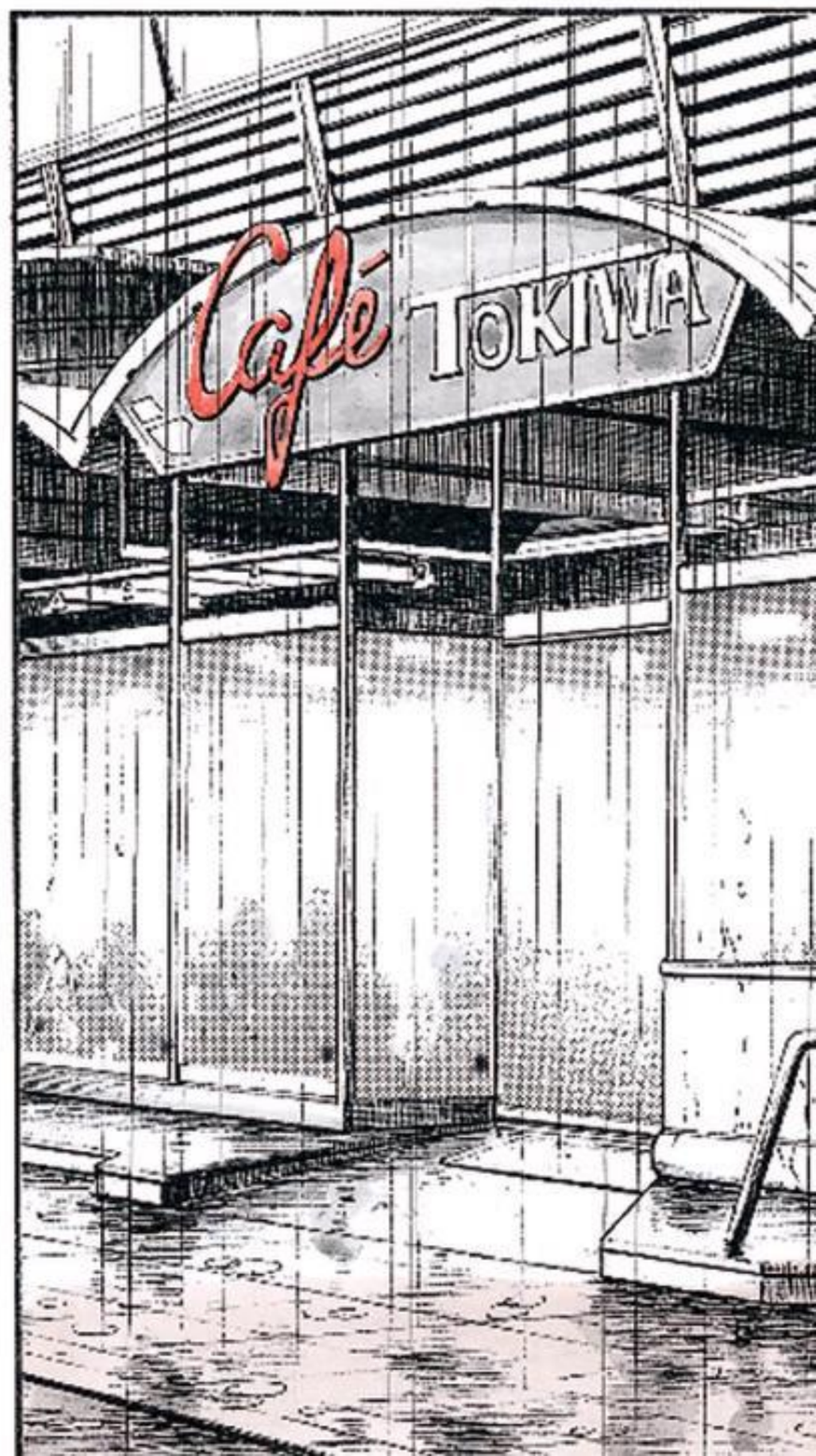
THE SAME PERSON IS IN CHARGE OF BOTH CASES...

ACCORDING TO THIS DATA...
CALL EUROPOL. WE'D BETTER TALK TO THE INVESTIGATORS IN CHARGE OF EACH CASE.


...

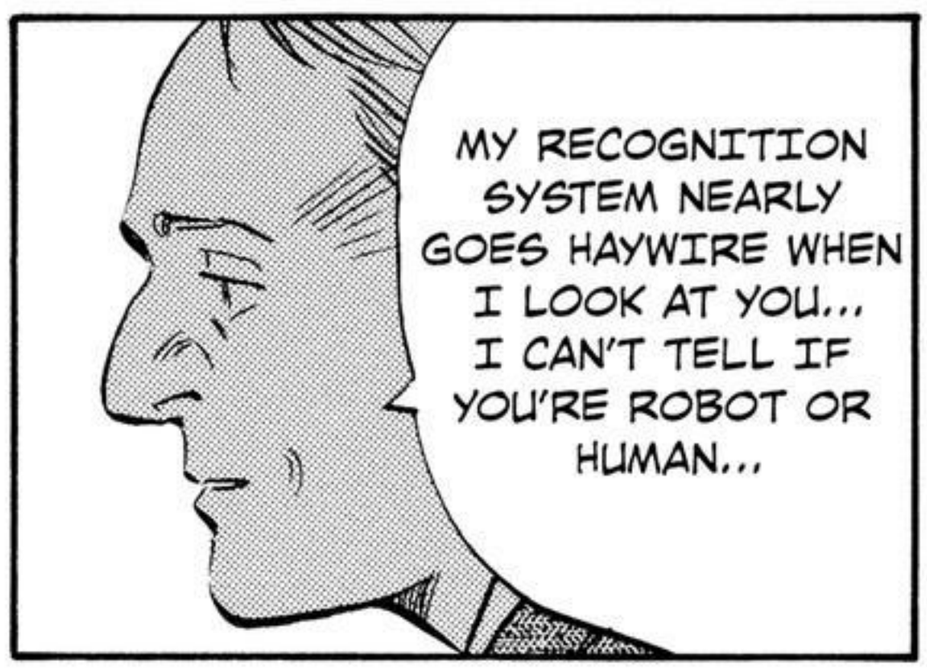
WHAT'S HIS NAME?

HMPH... A DAMN ROBOT, EH? WOULDN'T YOU KNOW IT...



UH, SURE...

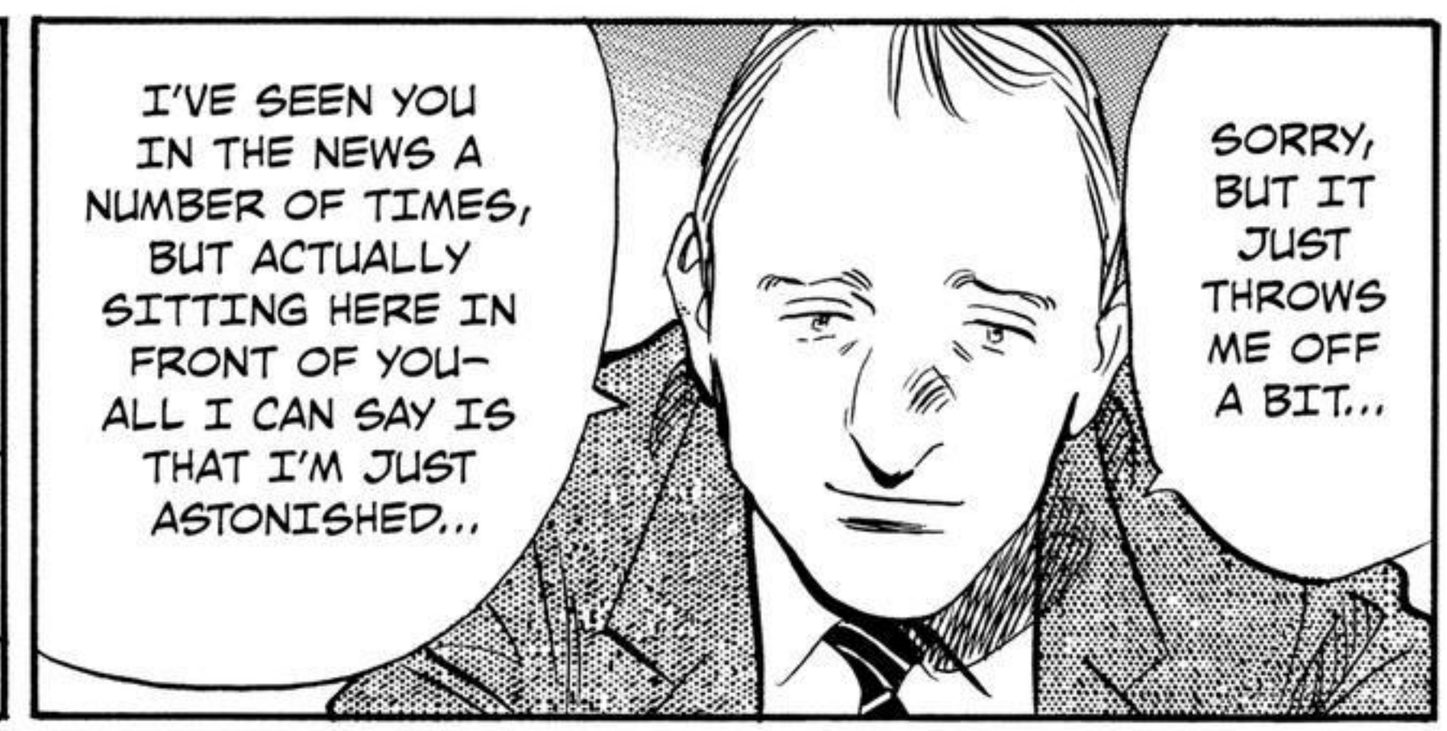
READY TO ORDER, SIR?

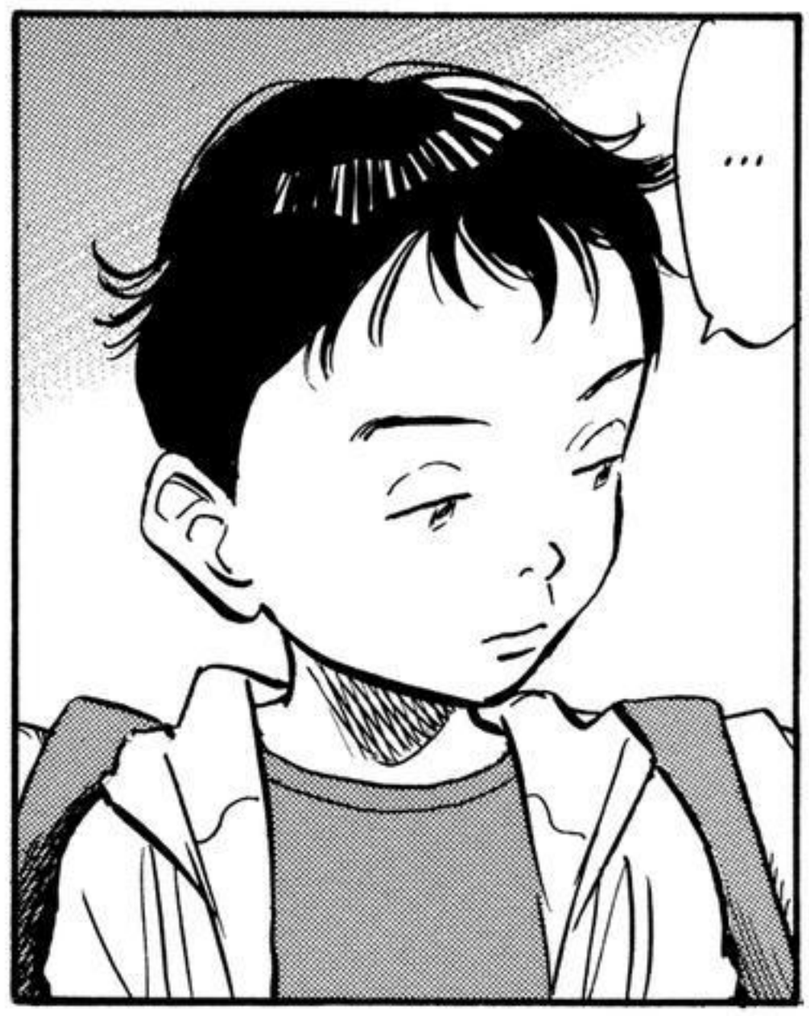

MY RECOGNITION SYSTEM NEARLY GOES HAYWIRE WHEN I LOOK AT YOU... I CAN'T TELL IF YOU'RE ROBOT OR HUMAN...

LOTS OF PEOPLE SAY THAT...

WHAT IS?
IT'S STRANGE...

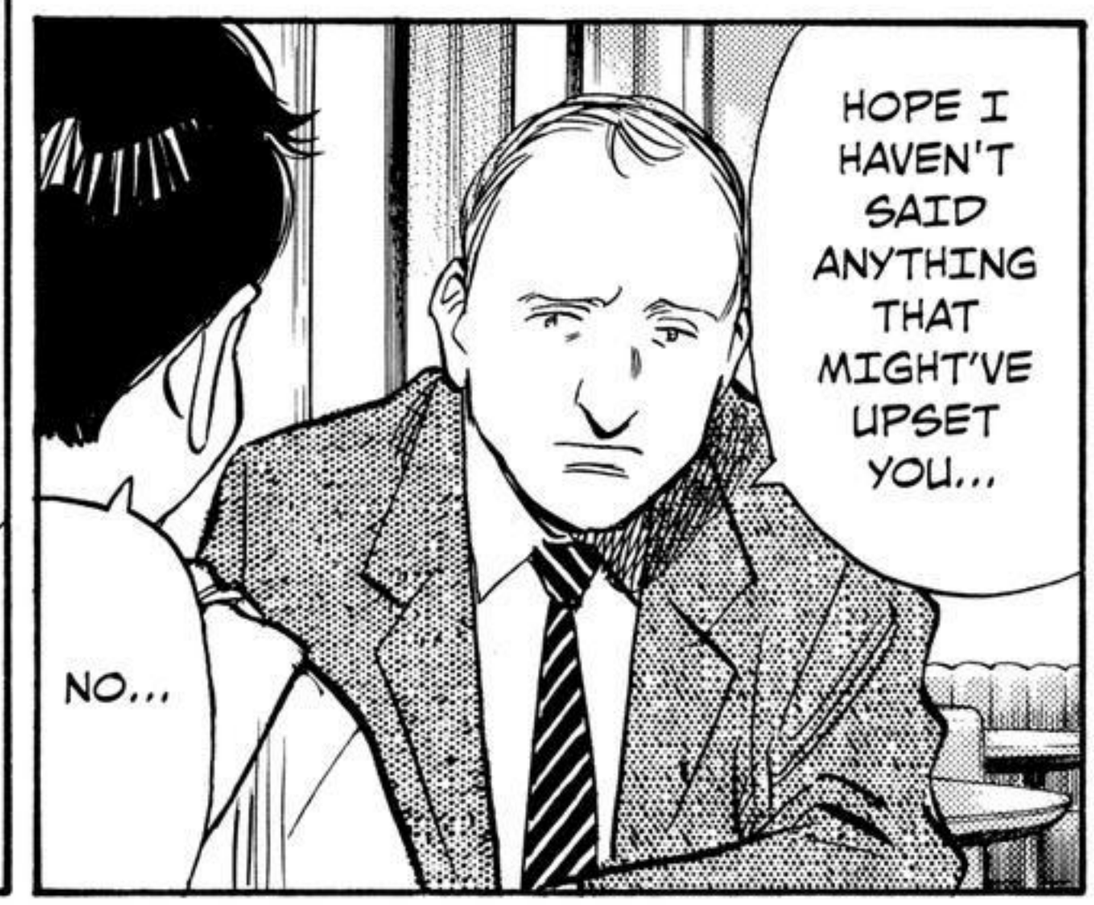
THE NEWS?


I'VE SEEN YOU IN THE NEWS A NUMBER OF TIMES, BUT ACTUALLY SITTING HERE IN FRONT OF YOU- ALL I CAN SAY IS THAT I'M JUST ASTONISHED...
SORRY, BUT IT JUST THROWS ME OFF A BIT...

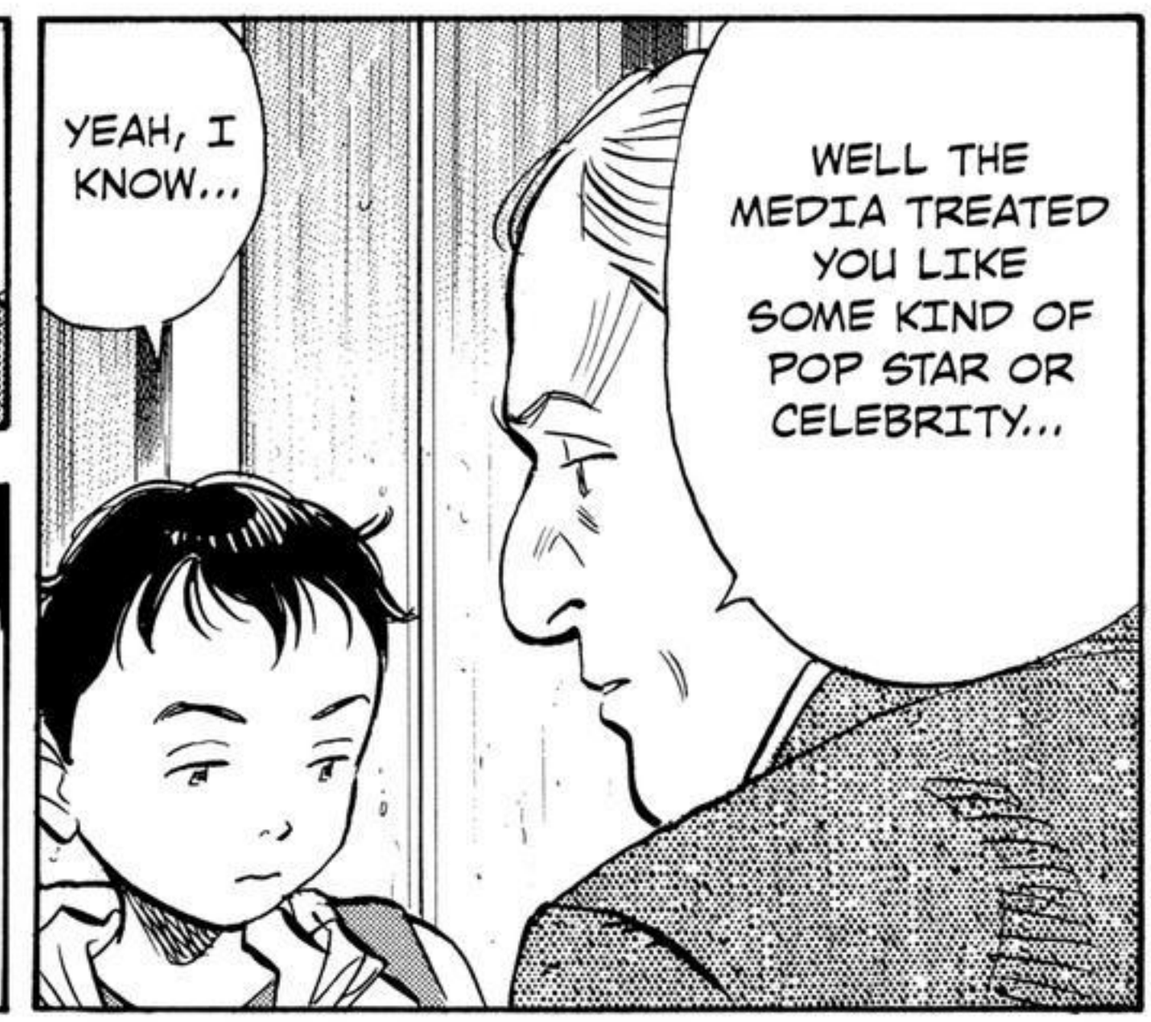

...

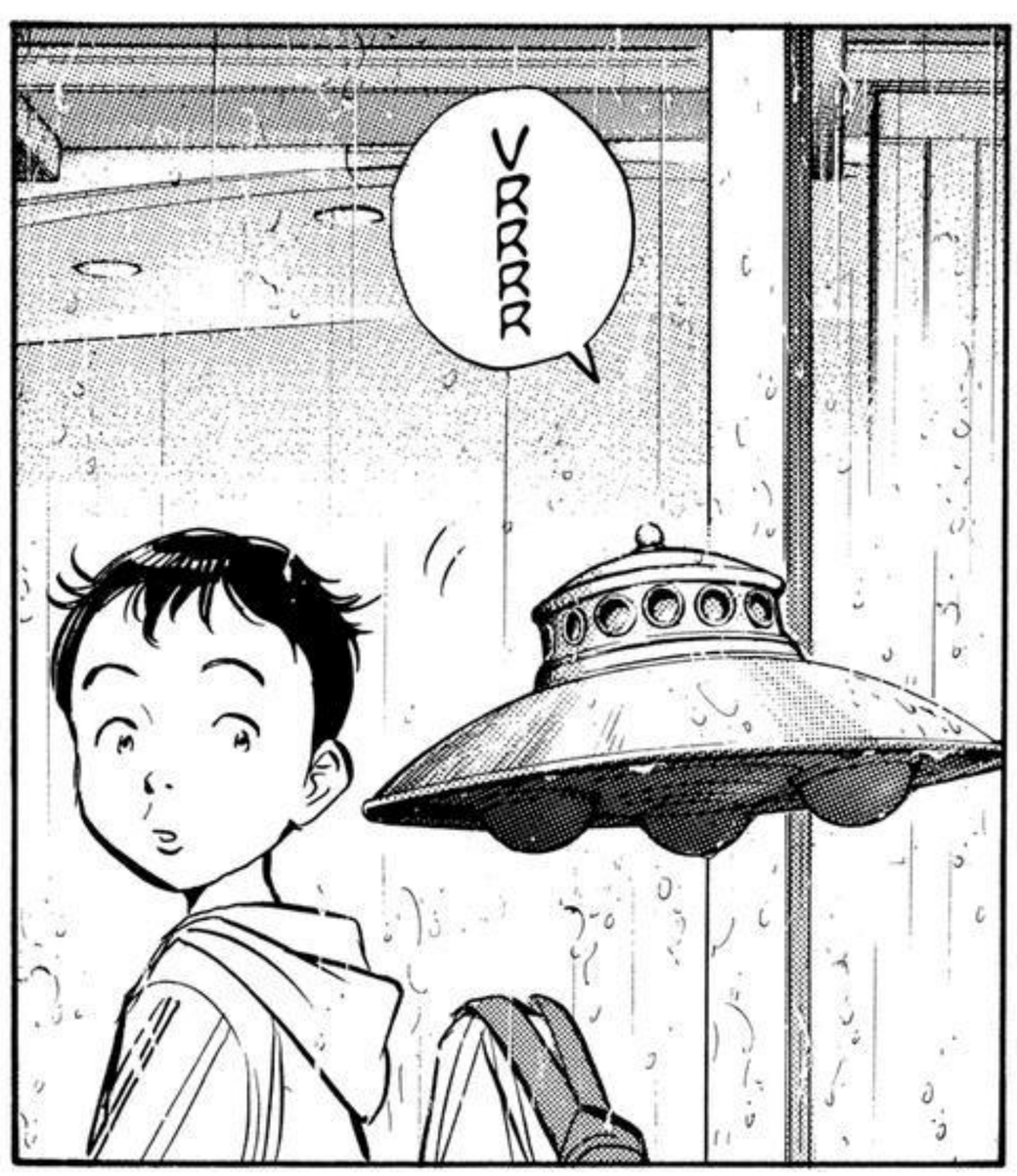
YOU KNOW... THE MEDIA MADE SUCH A BIG DEAL OUT OF IT WHEN YOU JOINED THE PEACE-KEEPING FORCES AND GOT INVOLVED IN THE 39TH CENTRAL ASIAN WAR...

I JUST WENT TO HELP PRESERVE THE PEACE IN THE AREA, THAT'S ALL...

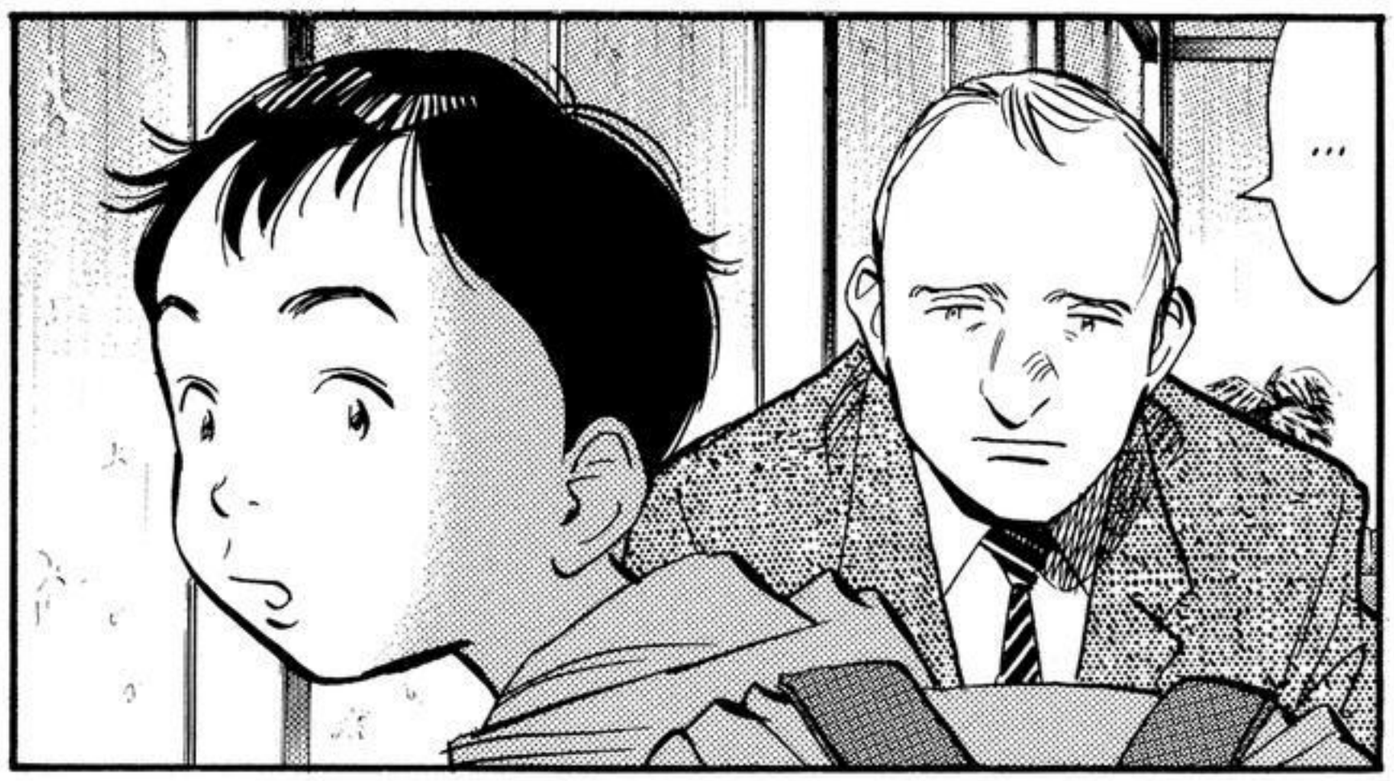

HOPE I HAVEN'T SAID ANYTHING THAT MIGHT'VE UPSET YOU...
NO...

...


YEAH, I KNOW...
WELL THE MEDIA TREATED YOU LIKE SOME KIND OF POP STAR OR CELEBRITY...


VRRRR

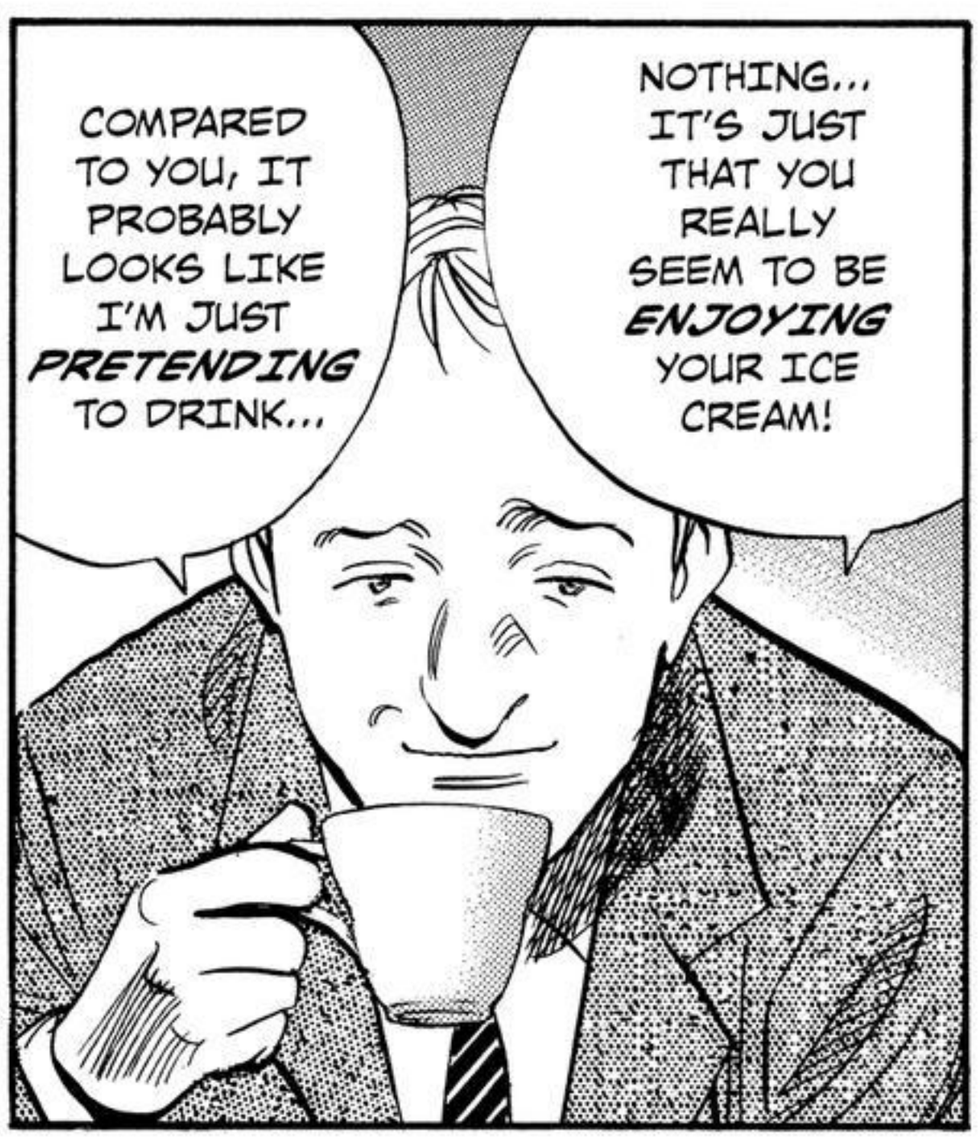
I TOLD YOU NOT TO PLAY WITH THAT 'TIL WE GET HOME!
LOOK, MOM! THIS IS REALLY COOL!
VRRR

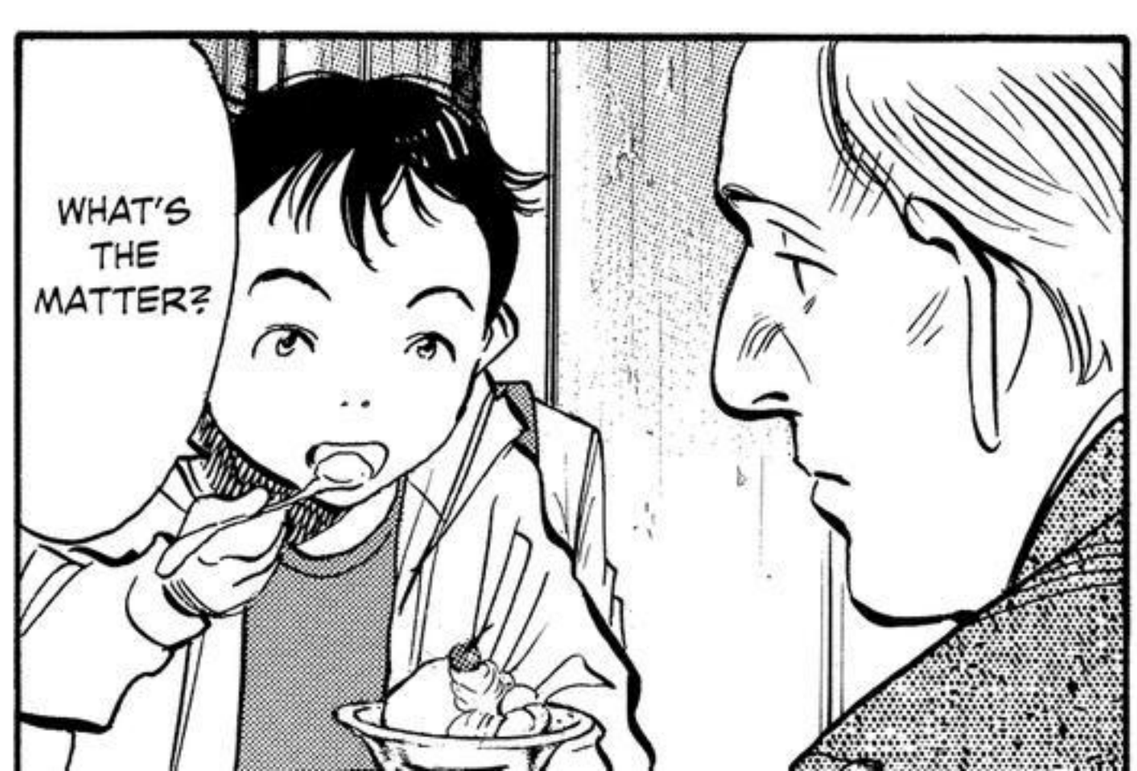

...

WOW... THAT LOOKS SOOO COOL...

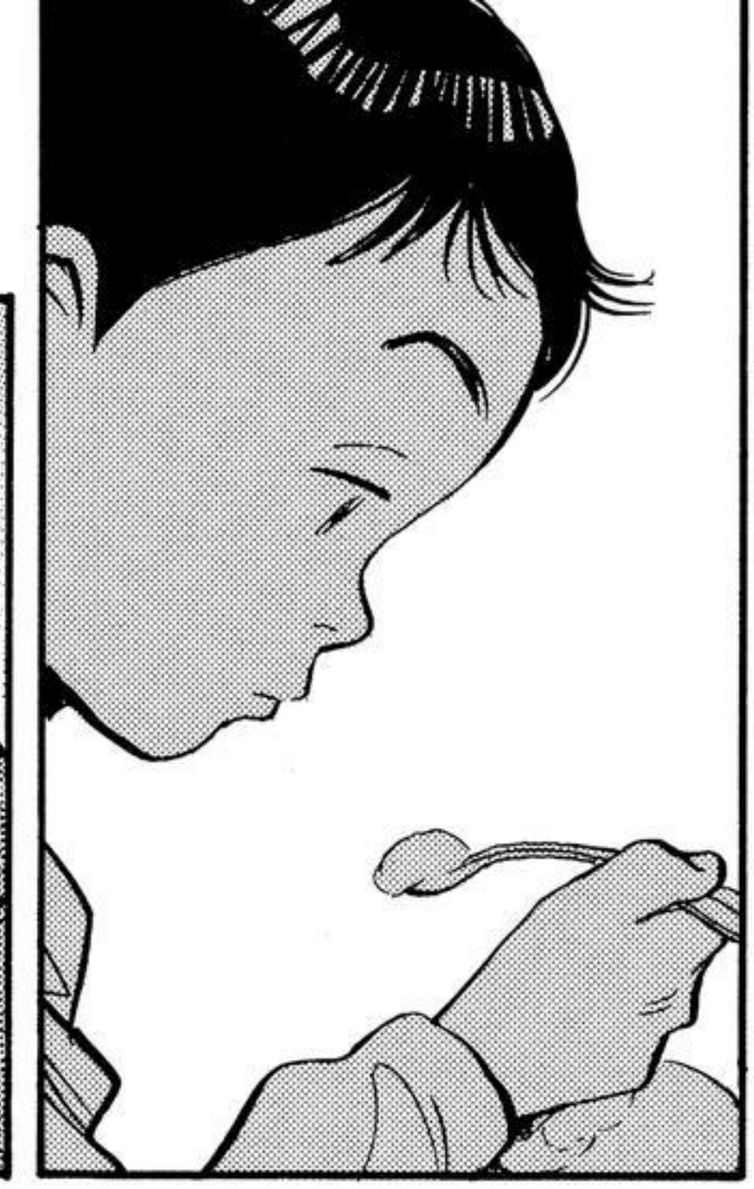
ALL RIGHT!

HERE YOU ARE.


COMPARED TO YOU, IT PROBABLY LOOKS LIKE I'M JUST *PRETENDING* TO DRINK...
NOTHING... IT'S JUST THAT YOU REALLY SEEM TO BE *ENJOYING* YOUR ICE CREAM!


WHAT'S THE MATTER?

...I EVENTUALLY REALLY GOT IT...
WELL, AFTER PRETENDING ALL THE TIME...



I DON'T UNDERSTAND THE ACTUAL SENSATION HUMANS TALK ABOUT...
HOW SO...?

GOT WHAT?
GOT WHAT "DELI-CIOUS" REALLY MEANS...

GO AHEAD...
MIND IF I ASK YOU A QUESTION, ATOM?

BUT I CAN KIND OF JUST FEEL IT...

INCREDIBLE ...

THEY'RE CALLED FLYING SAUCERS! AND THEY'RE SO POPULAR YOU'VE GOTTA PREORDER 'EM IN STORES!
SURE... WHAT KID WOULDN'T WANT ONE OF THOSE?!

WHEN YOU SAW THAT BOY WITH THE NEW TOY, DID YOU REALLY WISH YOU HAD ONE TOO?

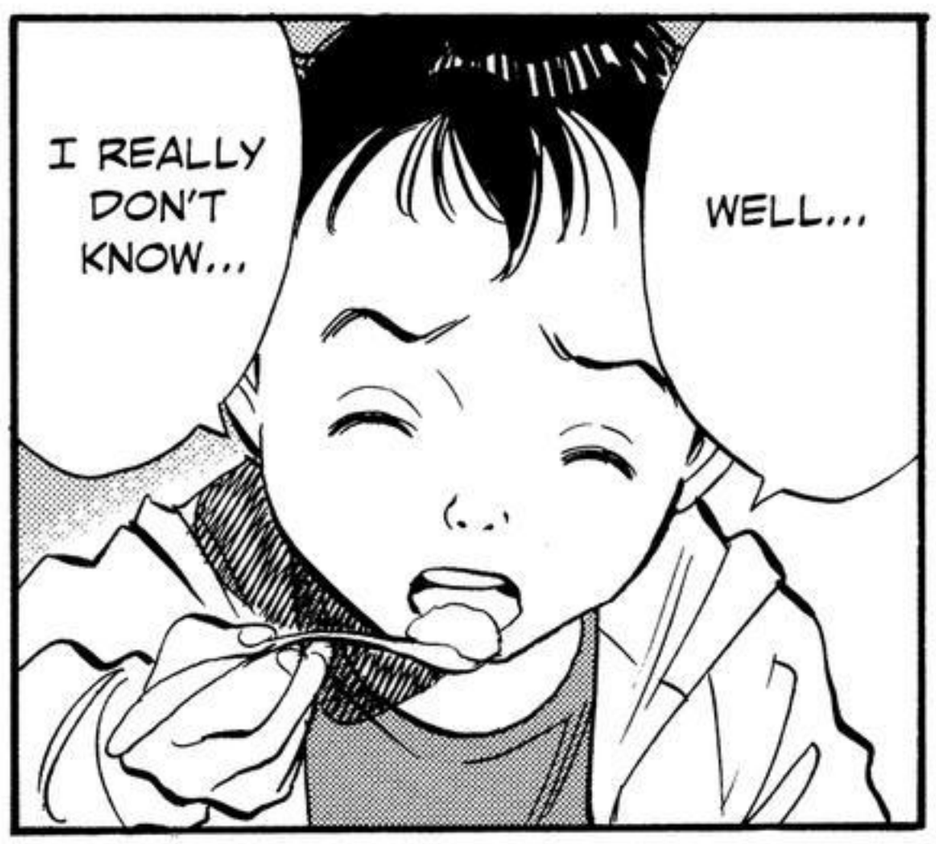
AND THAT SNAIL YOU FOUND IN THE RAIN...

...

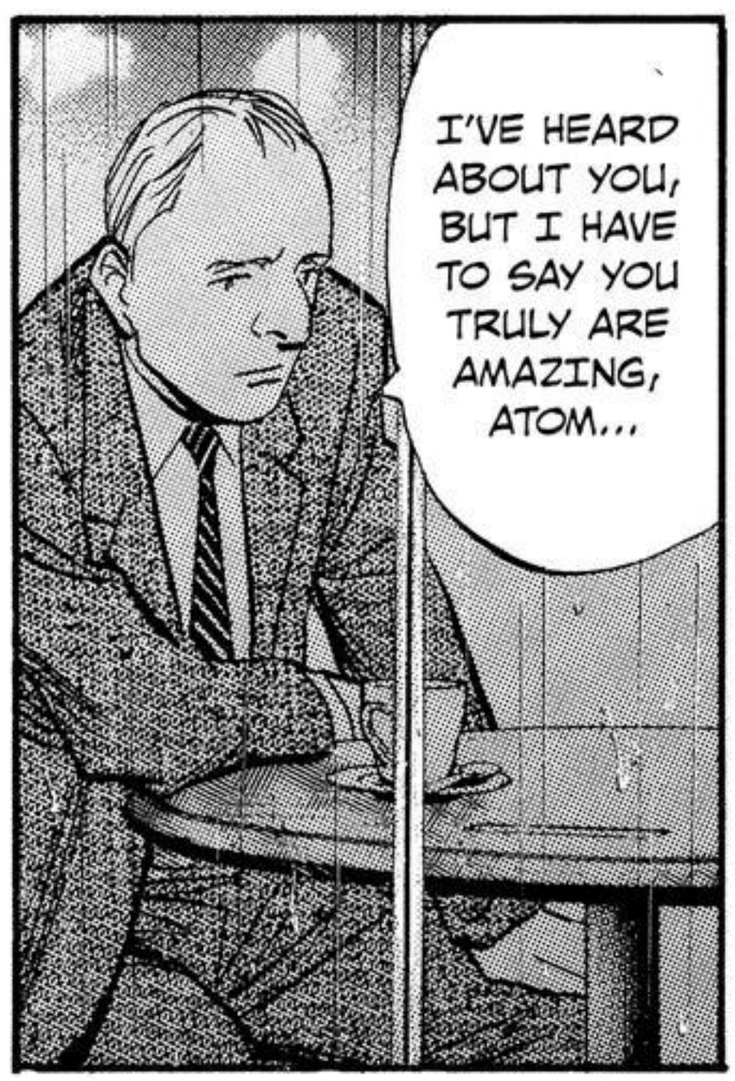
LET ME PUT IT ANOTHER WAY...
GEE, I DUNNO...

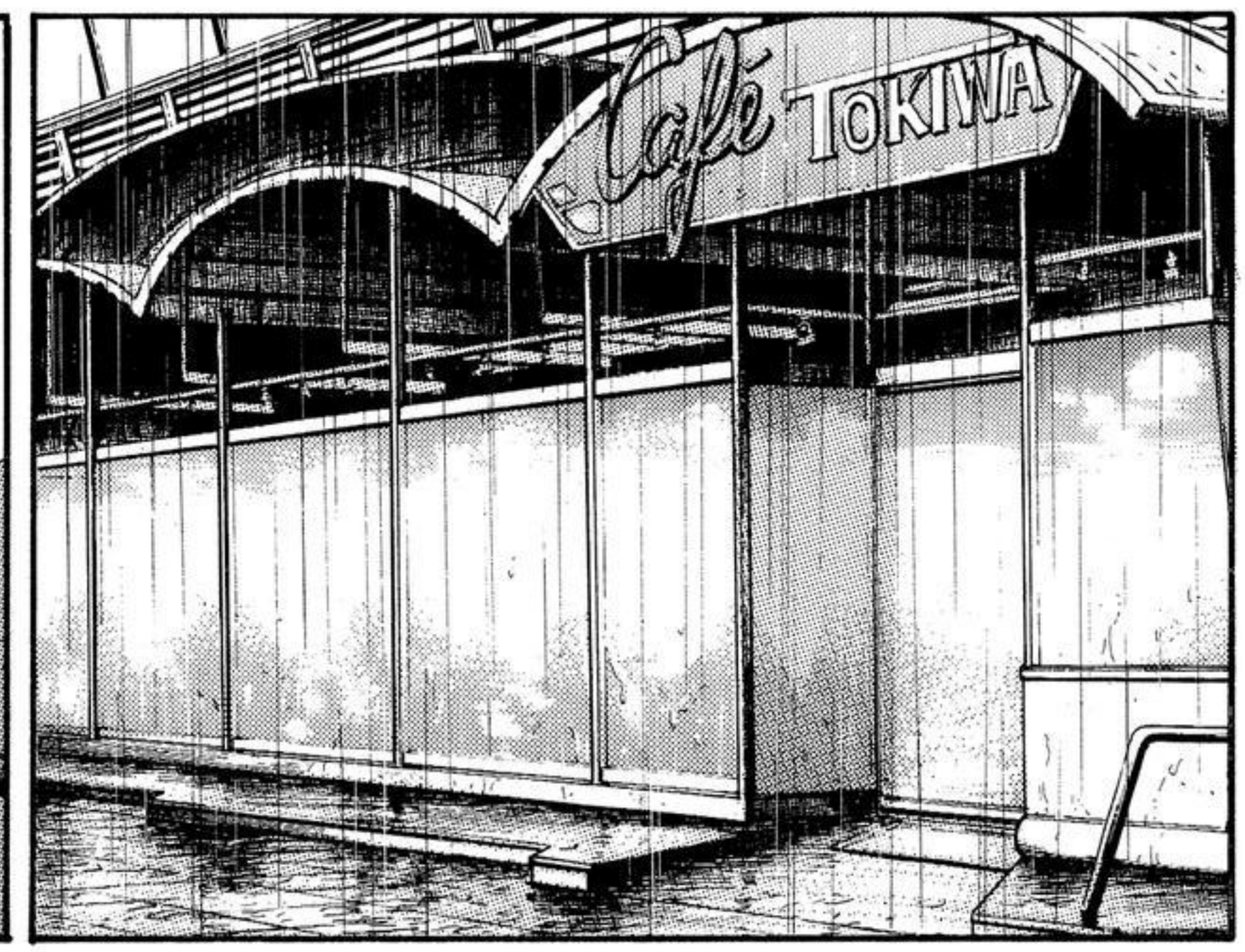
WERE YOU JUST THINKING THAT YOU'D COME ACROSS A PULMONATE GASTROPOD MOLLUSK, A MEMBER OF THE HELICIDAE FAMILY...

...OR DID YOU FEEL SOME KIND OF EMOTION ...?


I REALLY DON'T KNOW...
WELL...

WHEN YOU SAW THAT IT WAS A LIVING THING, DID YOU FEEL EXCITED ...?


I'VE HEARD ABOUT YOU, BUT I HAVE TO SAY YOU TRULY ARE AMAZING, ATOM...


Café TOKIWA

YEAH, THAT'S WHY I WAS SOLD...
...BUT YOU LOOK JUST LIKE ANY ORDINARY KID...

THERE'S NO DOUBT ABOUT IT... YOUR ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IS FAR SUPERIOR TO MINE...

SOLD?

I LOOK LIKE A KID ON THE OUTSIDE, SO PEOPLE THOUGHT IT WAS WEIRD AND ENTERTAINING. THAT'S WHY I WAS SOLD TO THE CIRCUS...

THEY SOLD YOU...

I TOLD YOU ABOUT THE CASE I'M WORKING ON IN THAT EMAIL I SENT YOU...

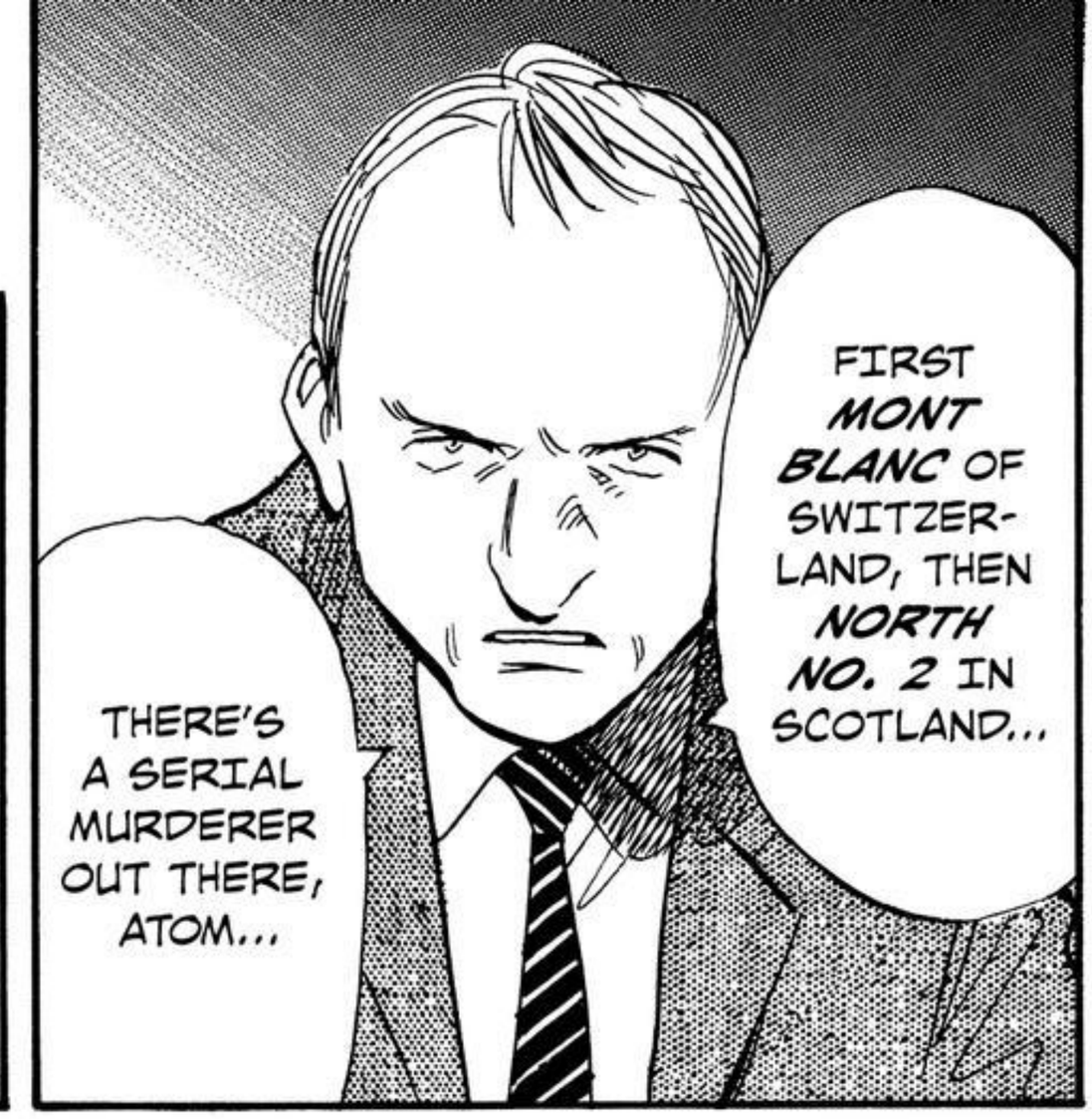
I'LL GET TO THE POINT...

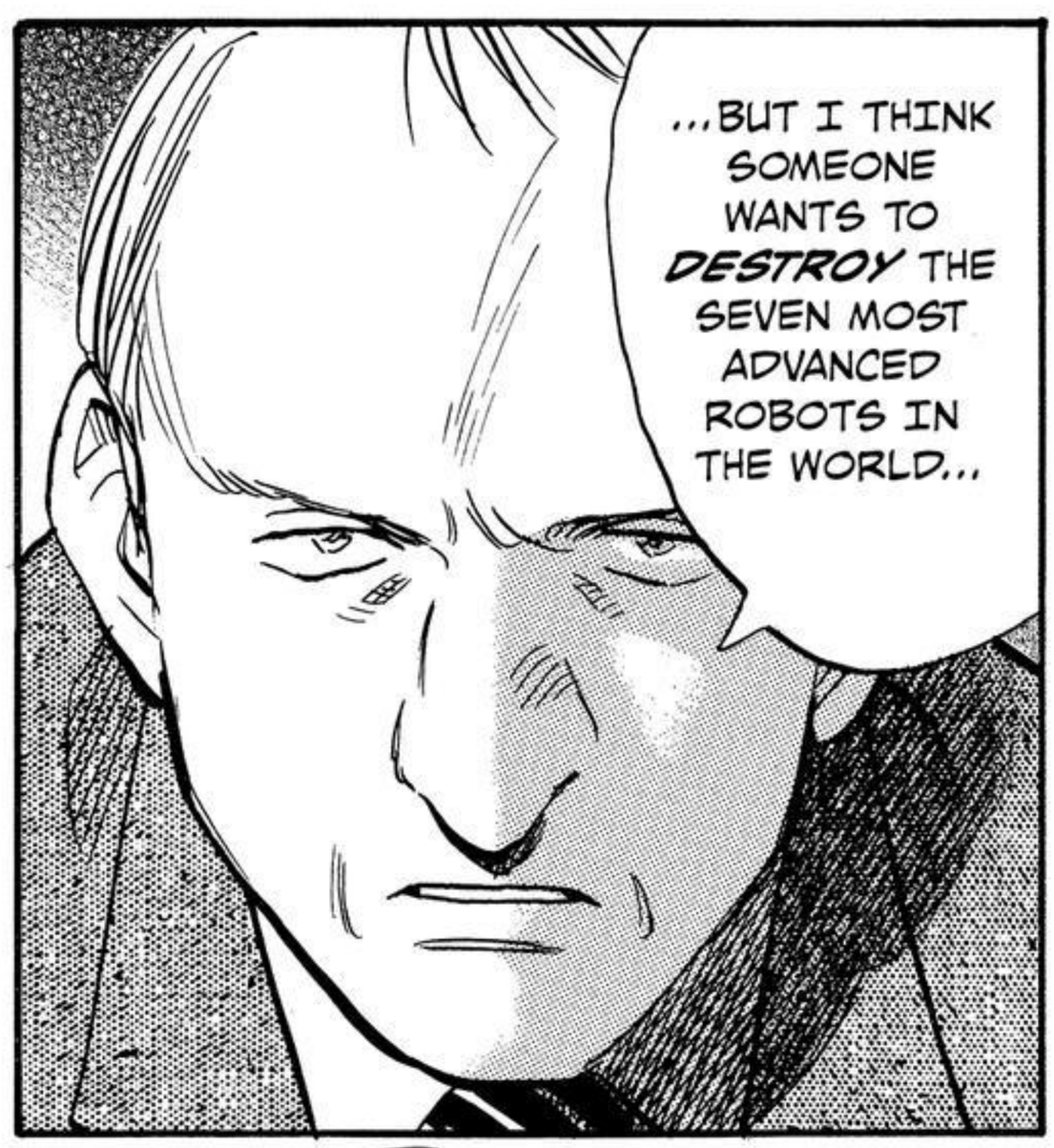
I'M SORRY, ATOM... I DIDN'T MEAN TO BRING ALL THIS UP...

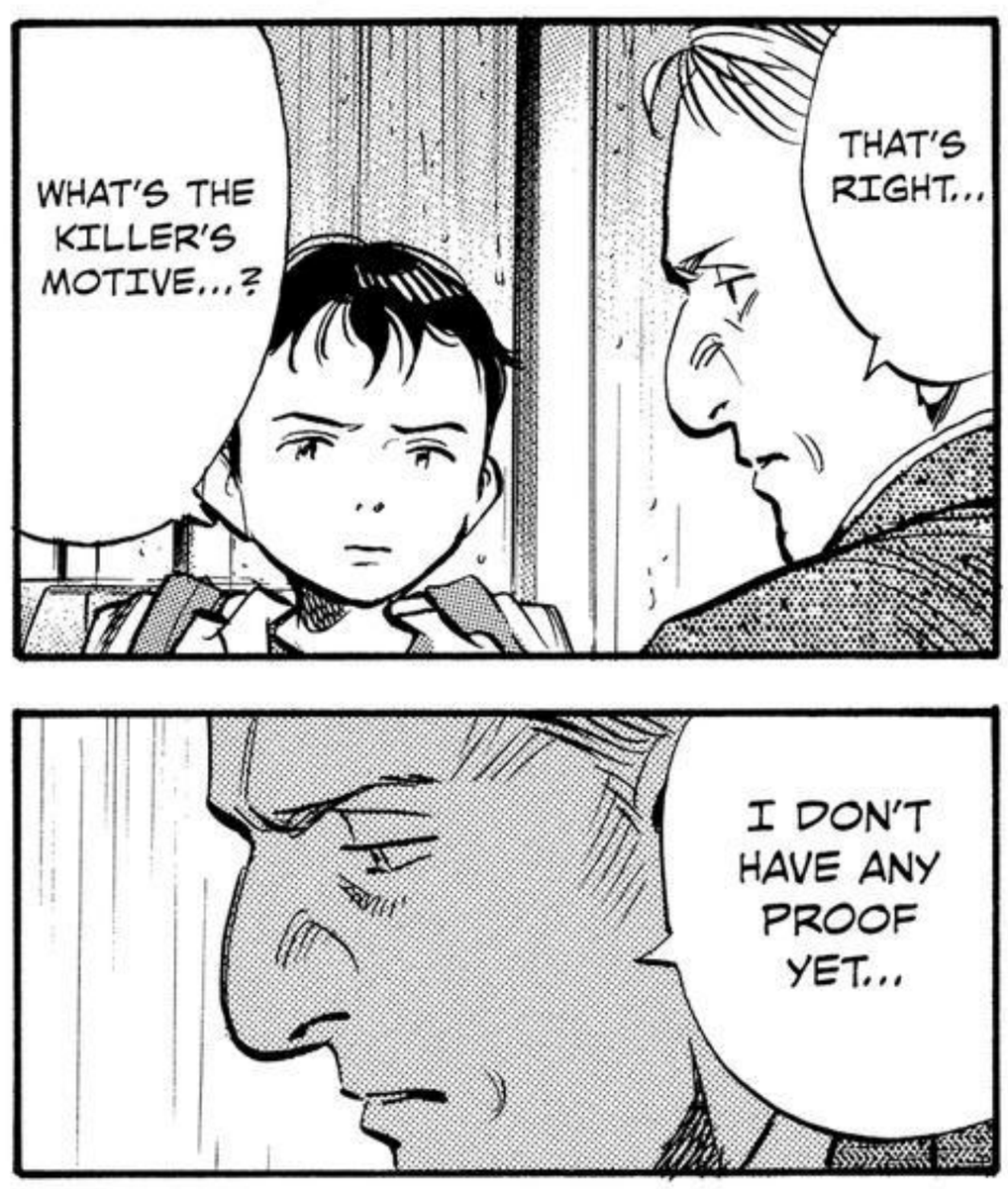
YEAH, BUT WHY ARE YOU SURPRISED? YOU ALREADY KNOW ABOUT MY PAST, RIGHT?

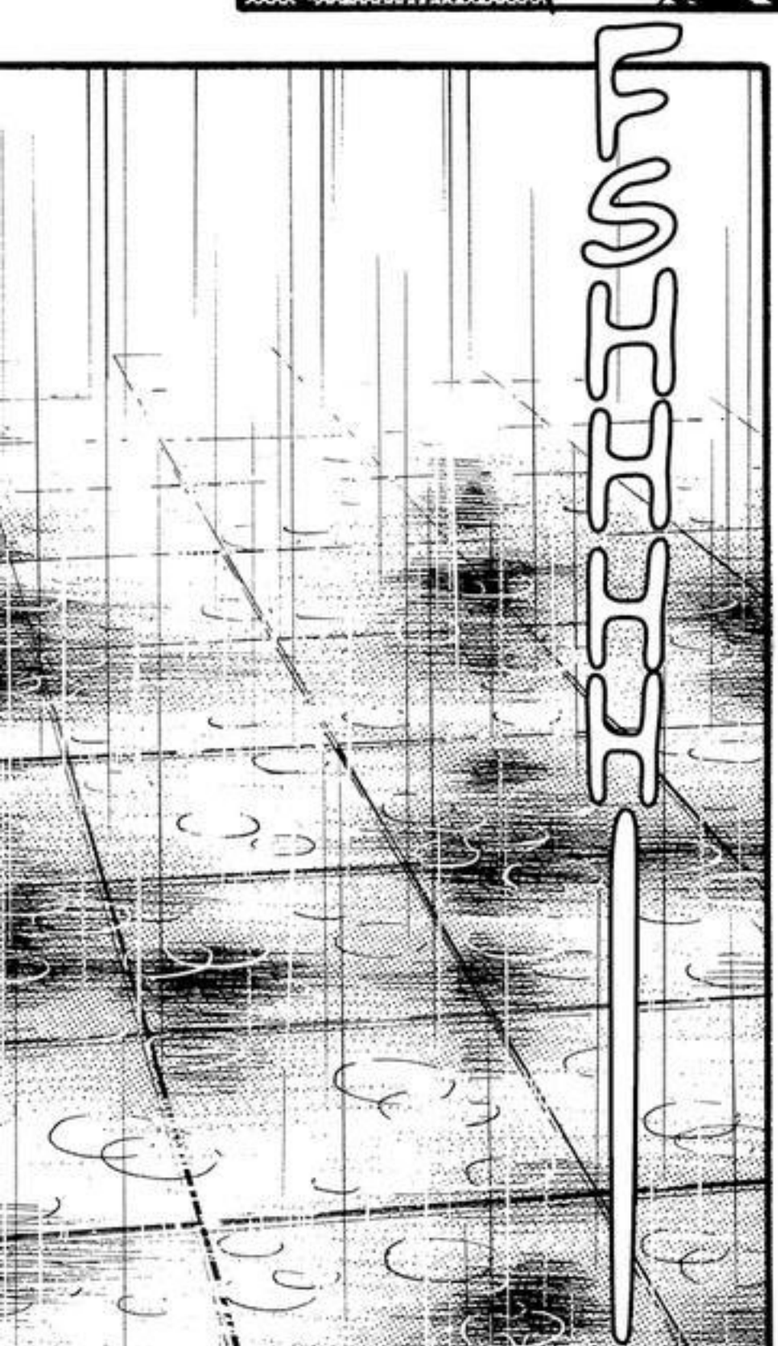
OH...

ARE YOU TRYING TO TELL ME I'M IN DANGER TOO?


FIRST MONT BLANC OF SWITZER-LAND, THEN NORTH NO. 2 IN SCOTLAND...
THERE'S A SERIAL MURDERER OUT THERE, ATOM...


...BUT I THINK SOMEONE WANTS TO DESTROY THE SEVEN MOST ADVANCED ROBOTS IN THE WORLD...

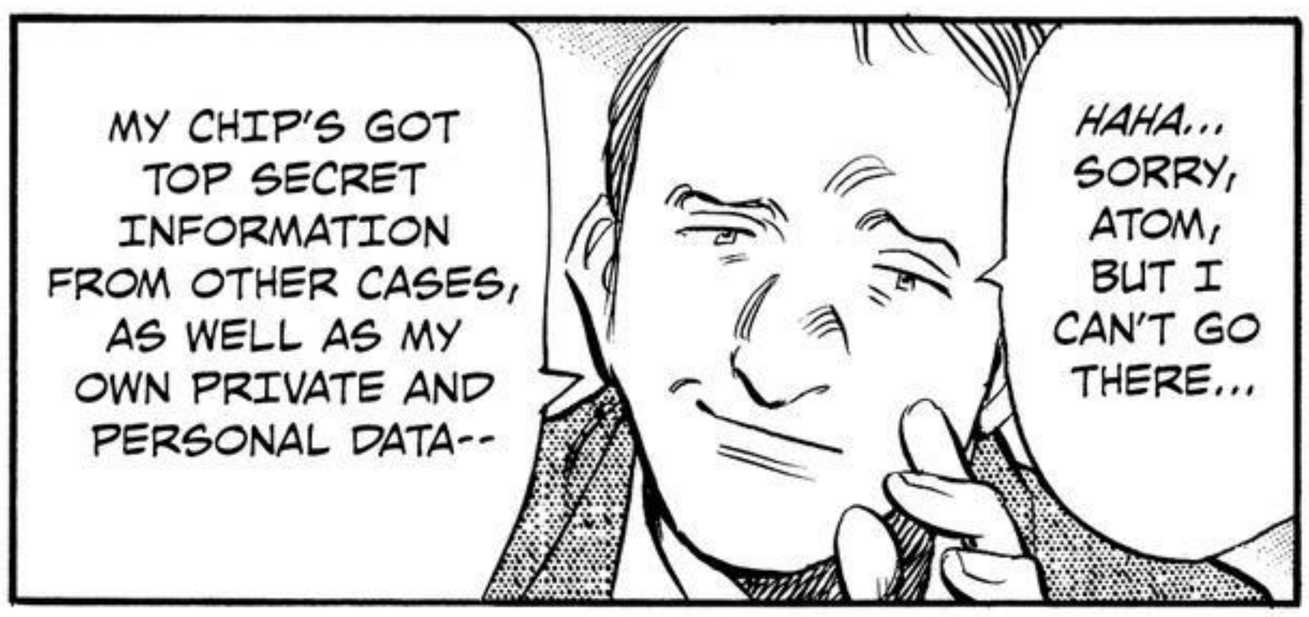

WHAT'S THE KILLER'S MOTIVE...?
THAT'S RIGHT...
I DON'T HAVE ANY PROOF YET...

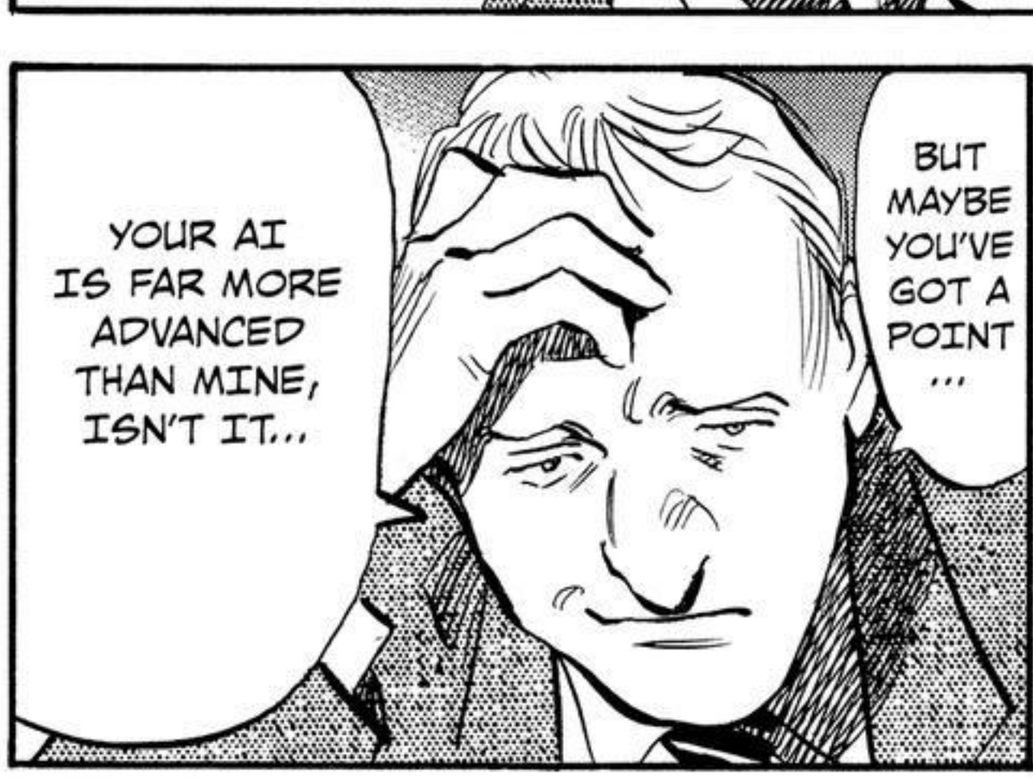

FSHHH

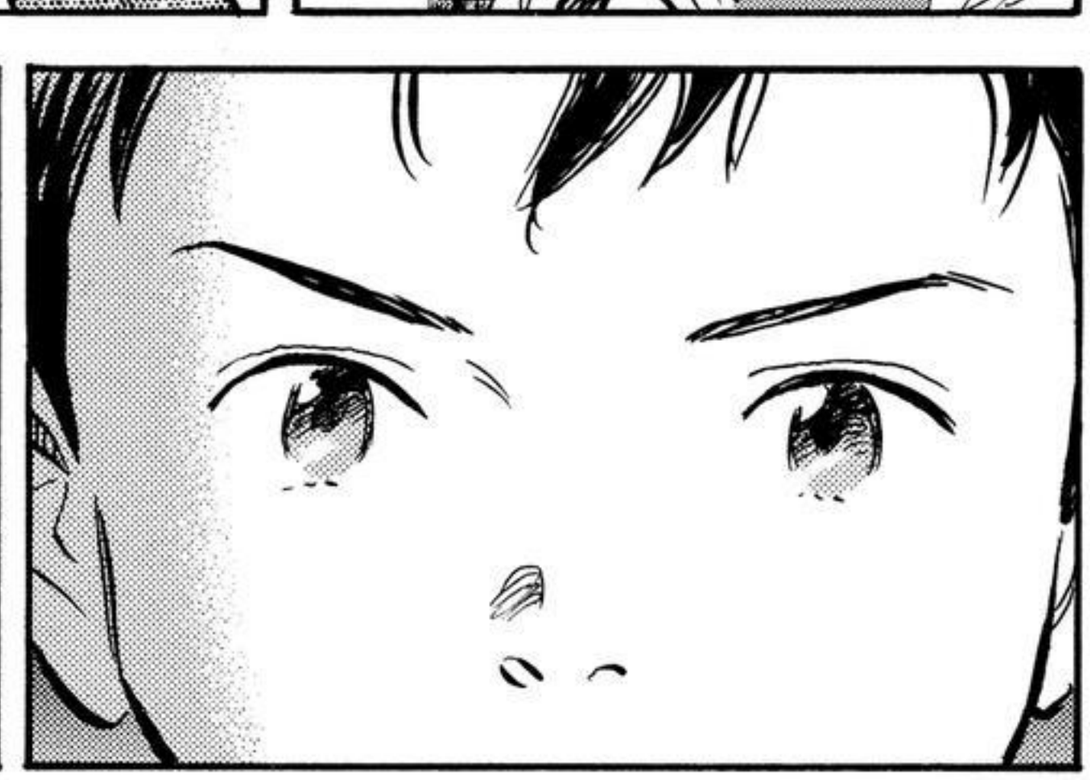
BUT WHY WOULD ANYBODY WANT TO DO THAT?
I THINK YOU ALREADY KNOW THE ANSWER TO THAT, ATOM...

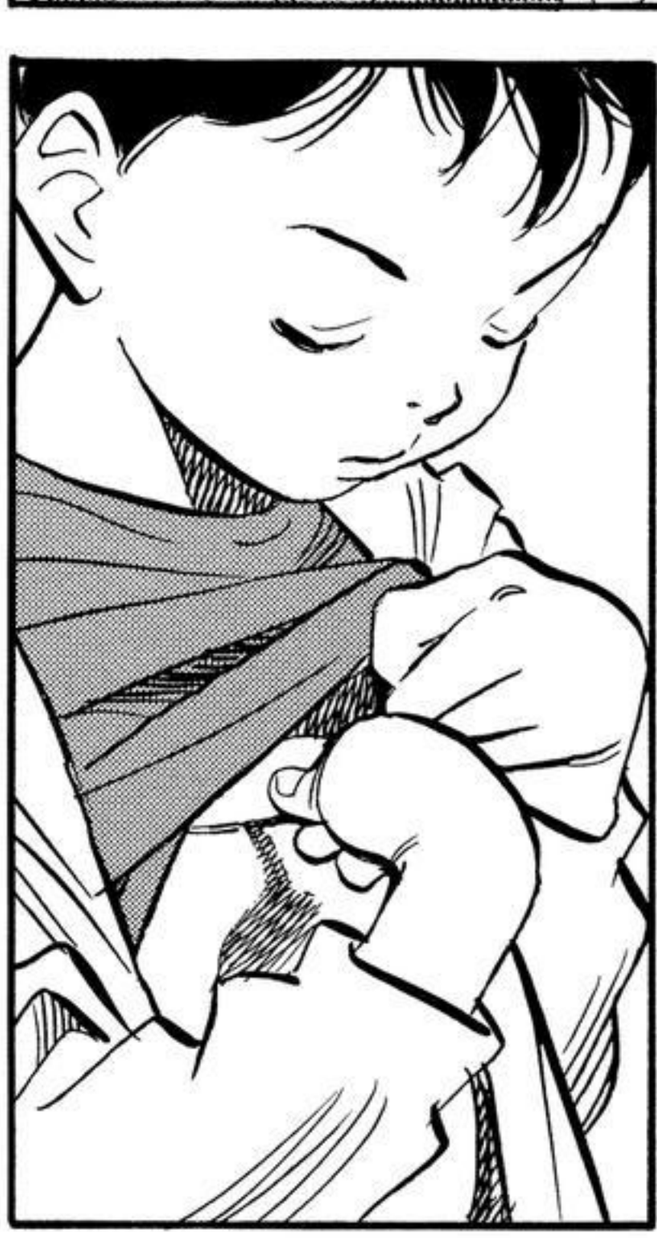
THERE MIGHT BE SOME CLUE TO ALL OF THIS BURIED AMONGST EVERYTHING YOU'VE SEEN AND HEARD...

WHY DON'T I READ THROUGH YOUR MEMORY CHIP?
?


MY CHIP'S GOT TOP SECRET INFORMATION FROM OTHER CASES, AS WELL AS MY OWN PRIVATE AND PERSONAL DATA--
HAHA... SORRY, ATOM, BUT I CAN'T GO THERE...

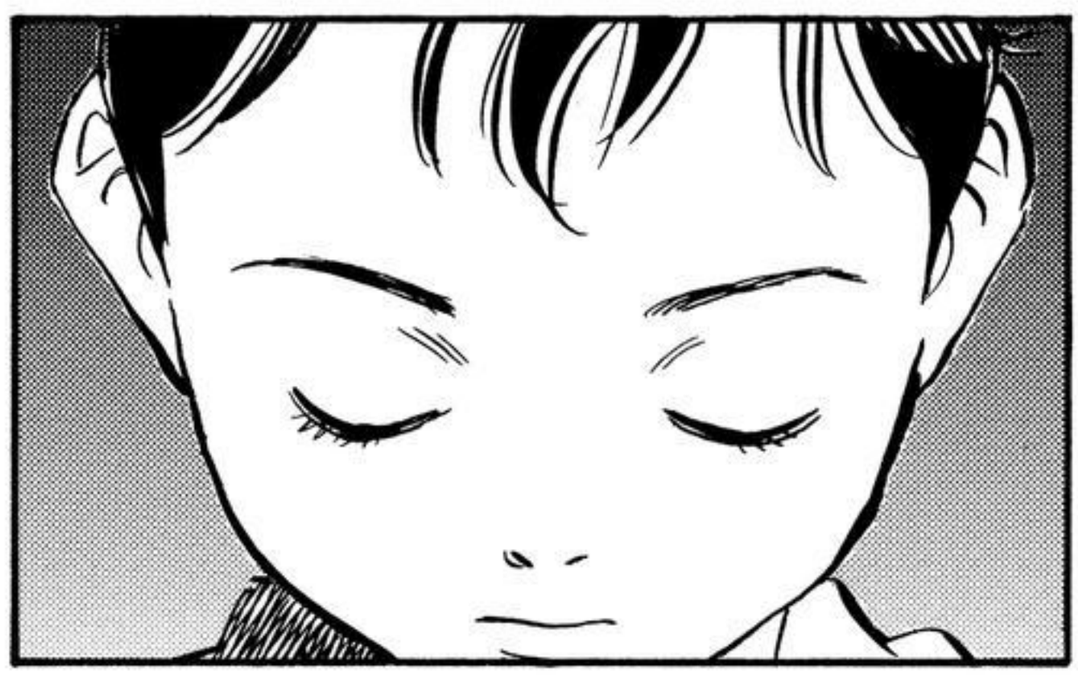

YOUR AI IS FAR MORE ADVANCED THAN MINE, ISN'T IT...
BUT MAYBE YOU'VE GOT A POINT ...





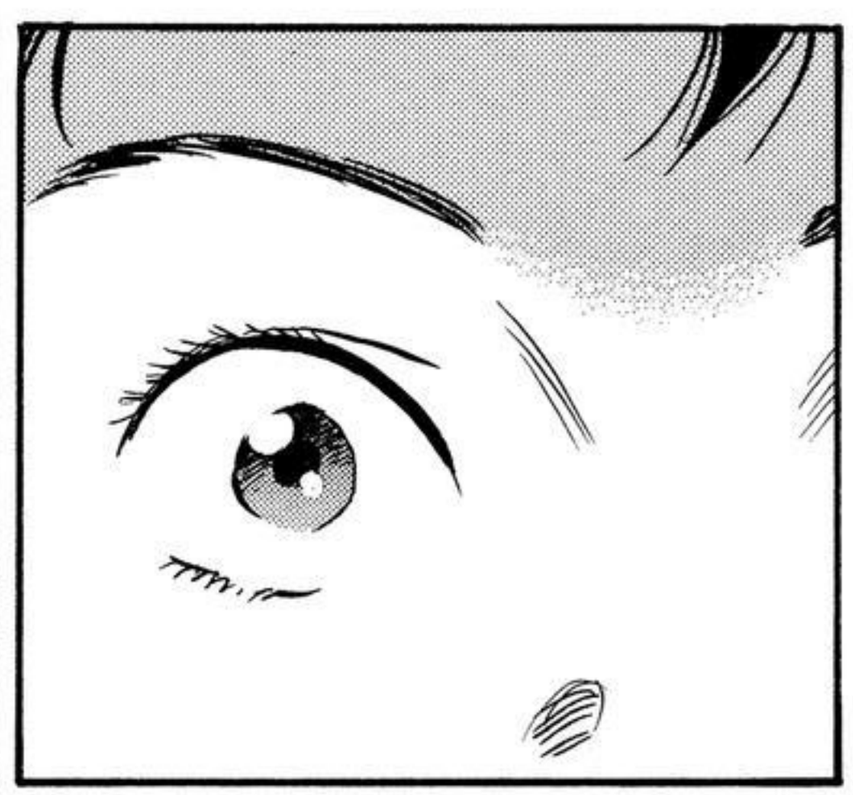
THANKS...

I'LL JUST PUT MY FAITH IN YOU, ATOM...



PLEASE GO AHEAD AND DELETE ANY EXTRANEOUS STUFF YOU PICKED UP IN THERE, OKAY?

THANK YOU...



SOMETHING YOU'VE OVER-LOOKED...

SURE...

I HOPE YOU FIND SOMETHING I'VE OVER-LOOKED...

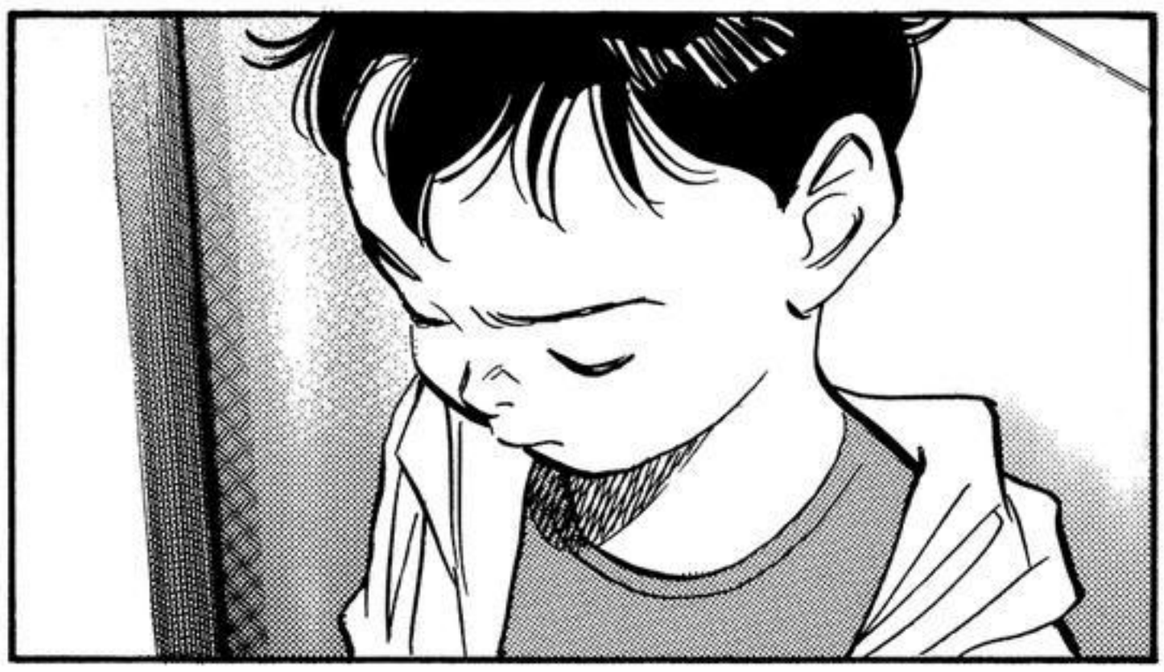
THE BATH-ROOM?
'SCUSE ME... I'VE GOTTA GO TO THE BATHROOM ...

YEAH... IT'S A HABIT I DEVELOPED, AFTER TRYING SO HARD TO IMITATE HUMANS ALL THE TIME...

?

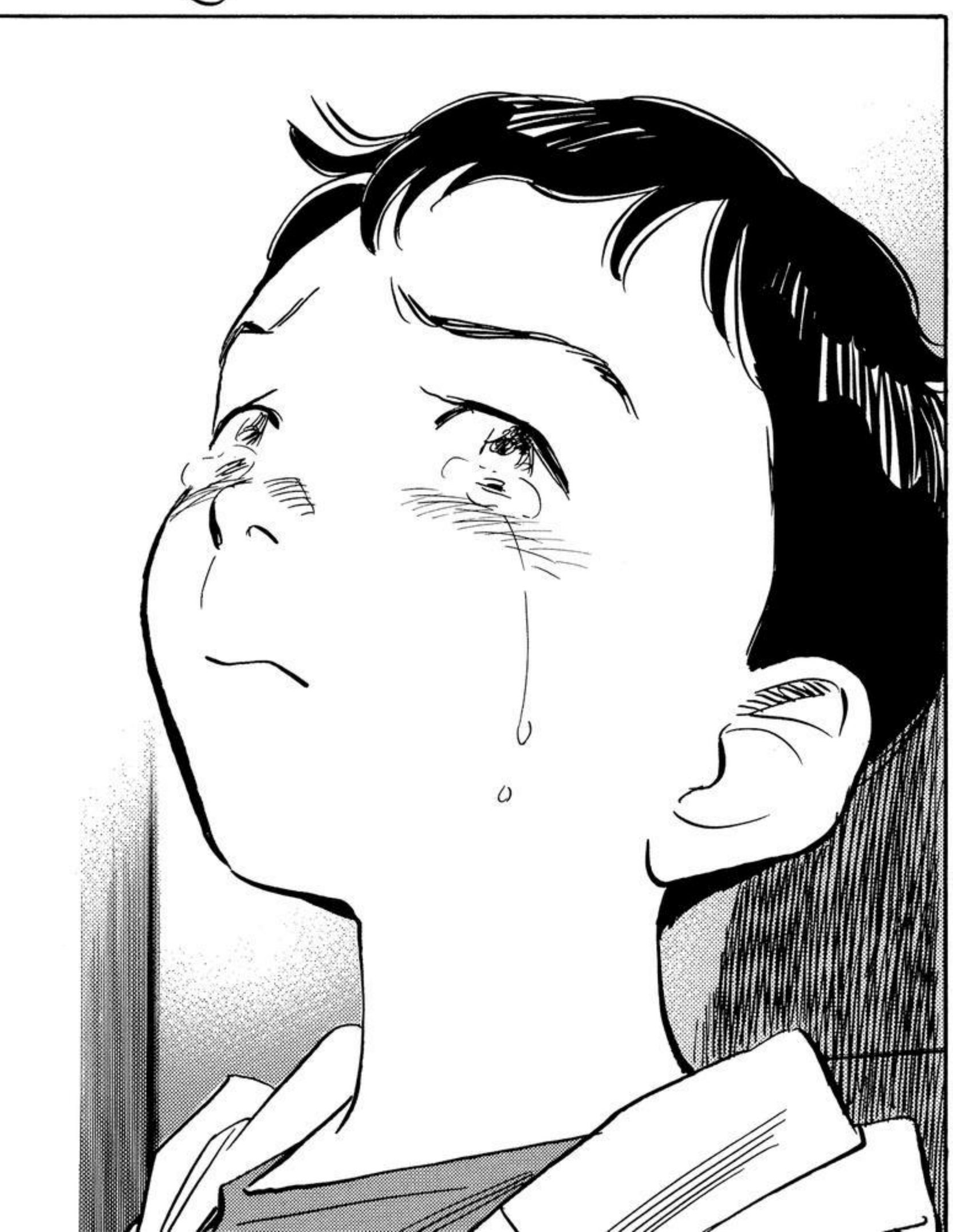
TOILET
ZHOOP

HMPH... WELL, YOU'RE SO CLOSE TO BEING HUMAN, I SUPPOSE IT MAKES SENSE...

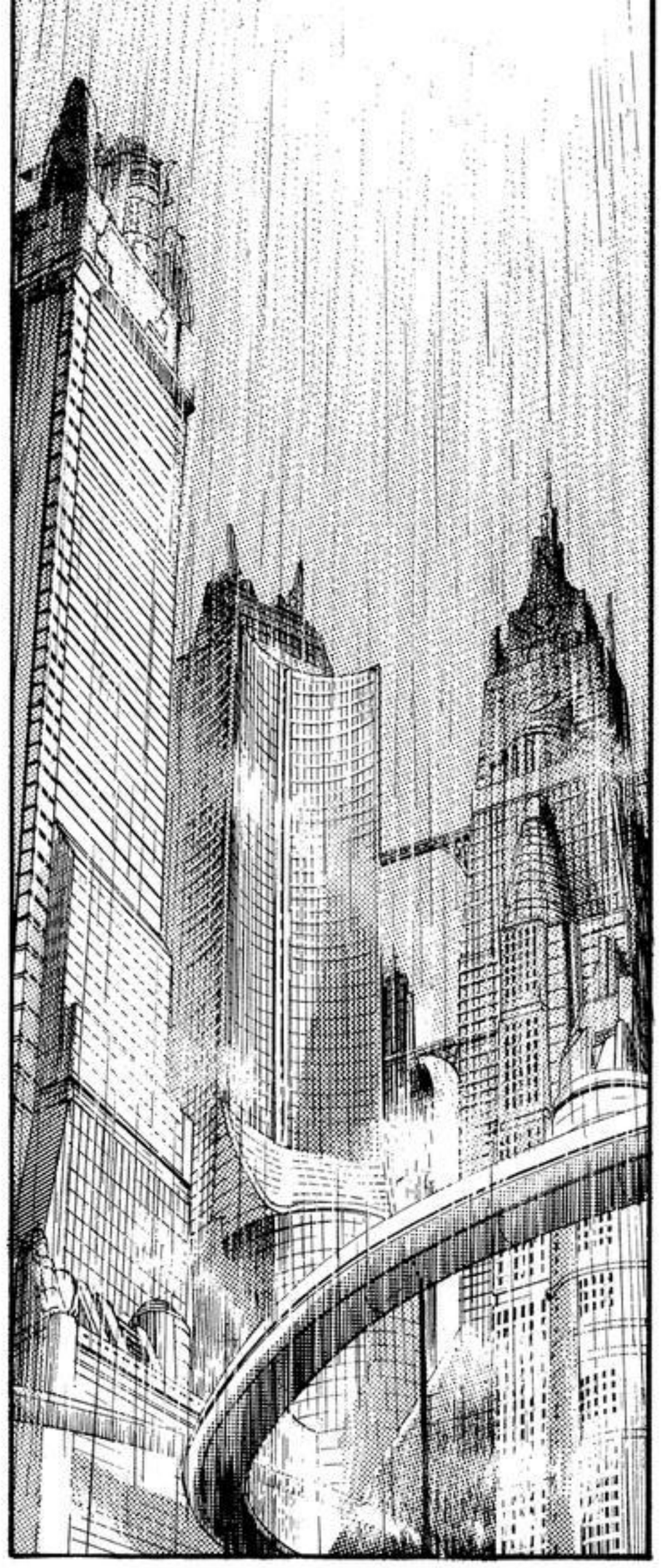


PLP

ZHOOP



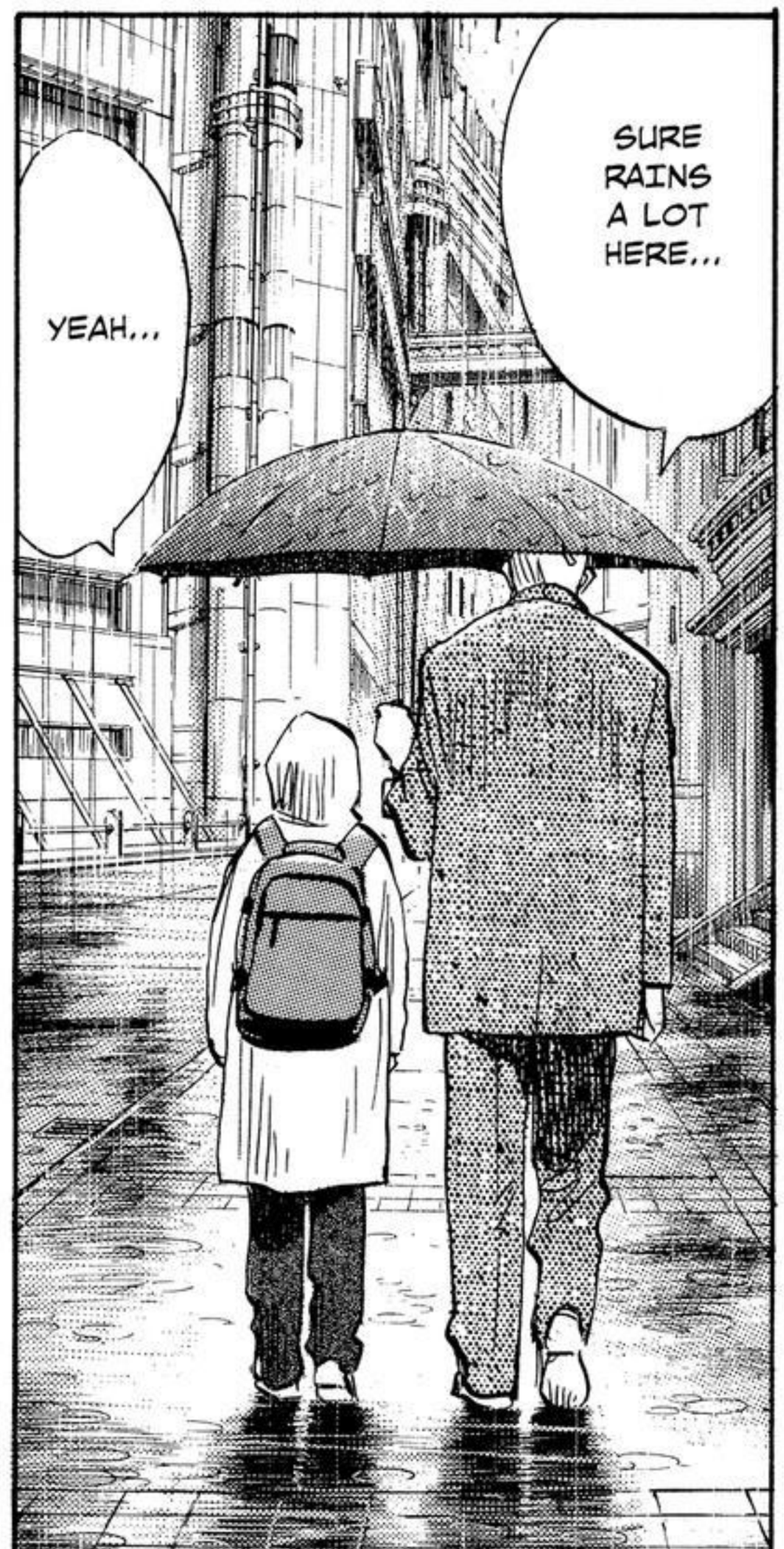
PLP PLP



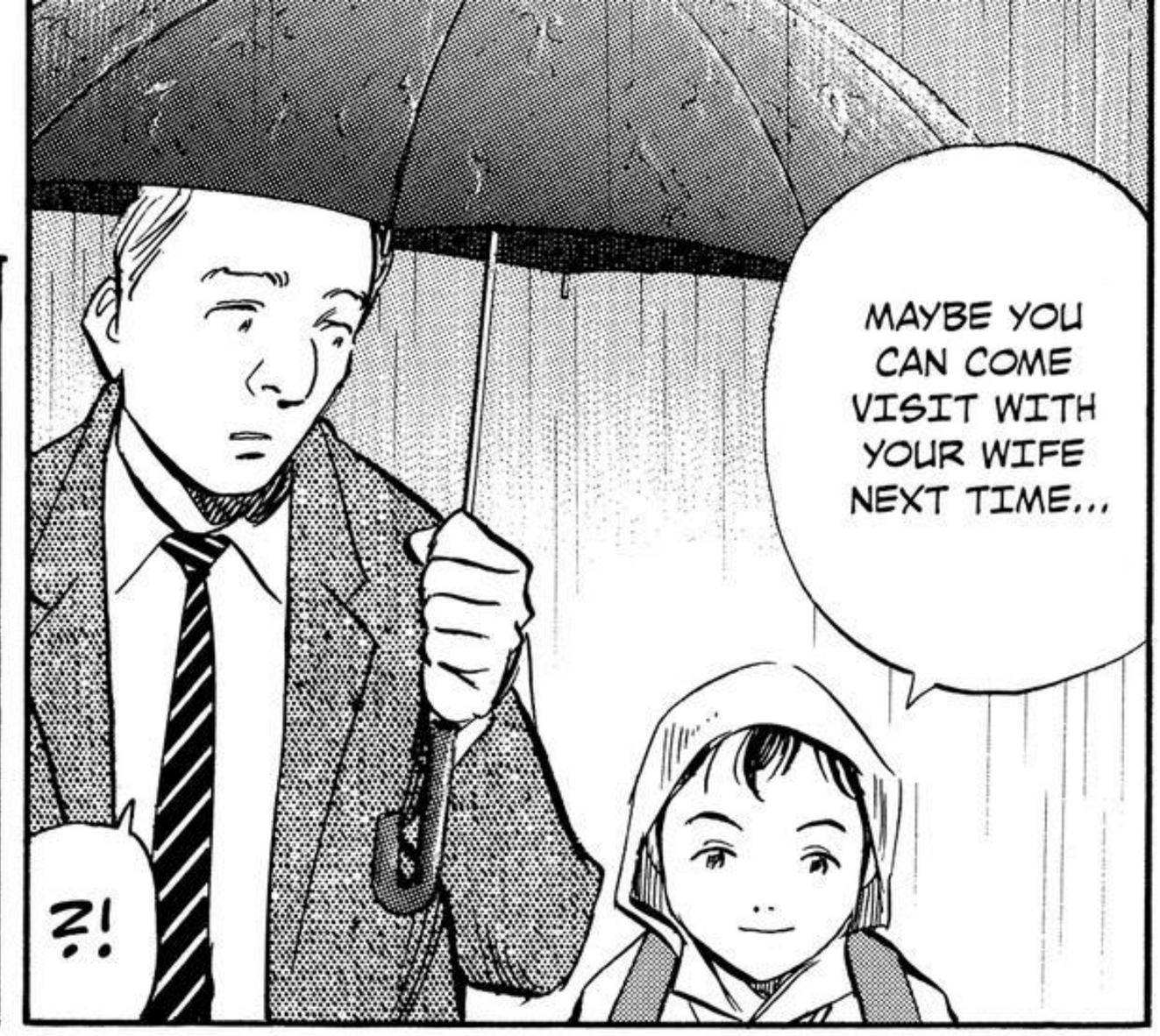
I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT YOU--
GESICHT...

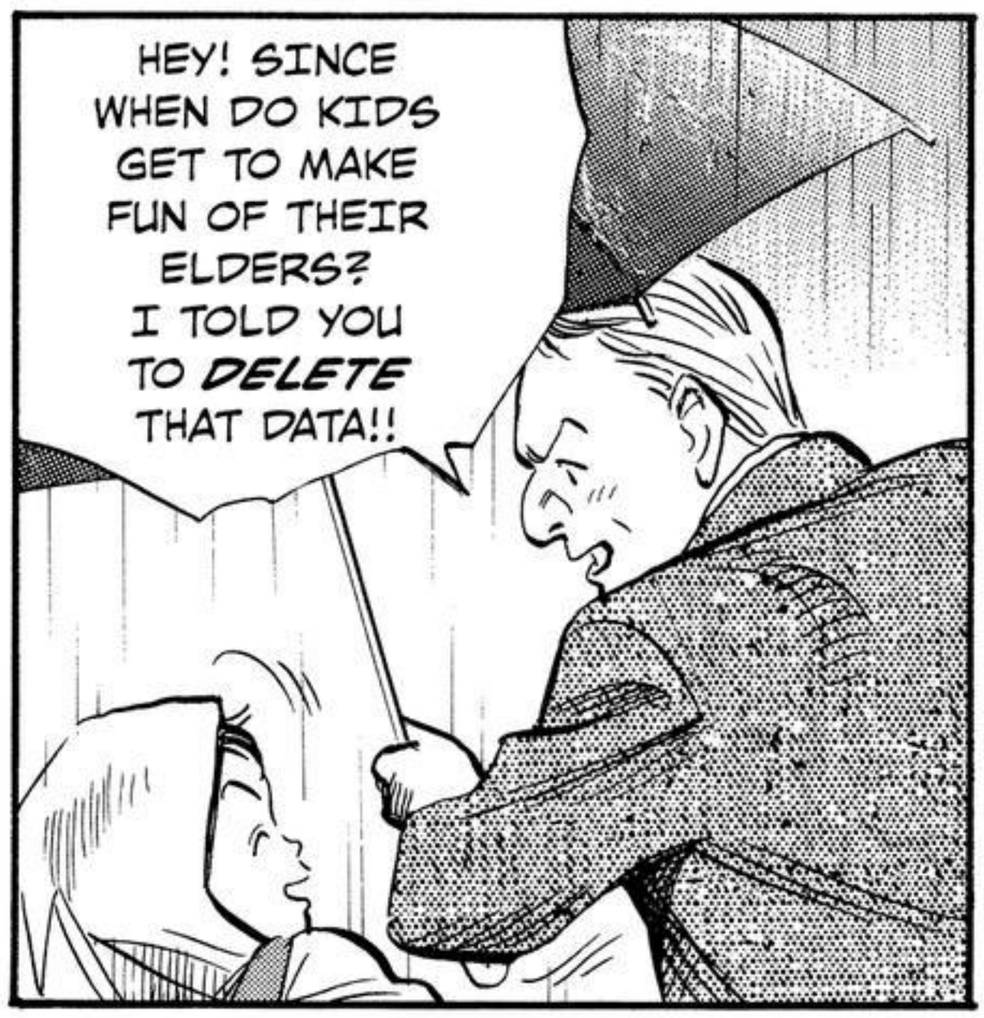
I'VE GOT A TON OF WORK WAITING FOR ME...
DO YOU HAVE TO LEAVE JAPAN SOON?

AND I'VE STILL GOT TWO MORE ROBOTS TO WARN...

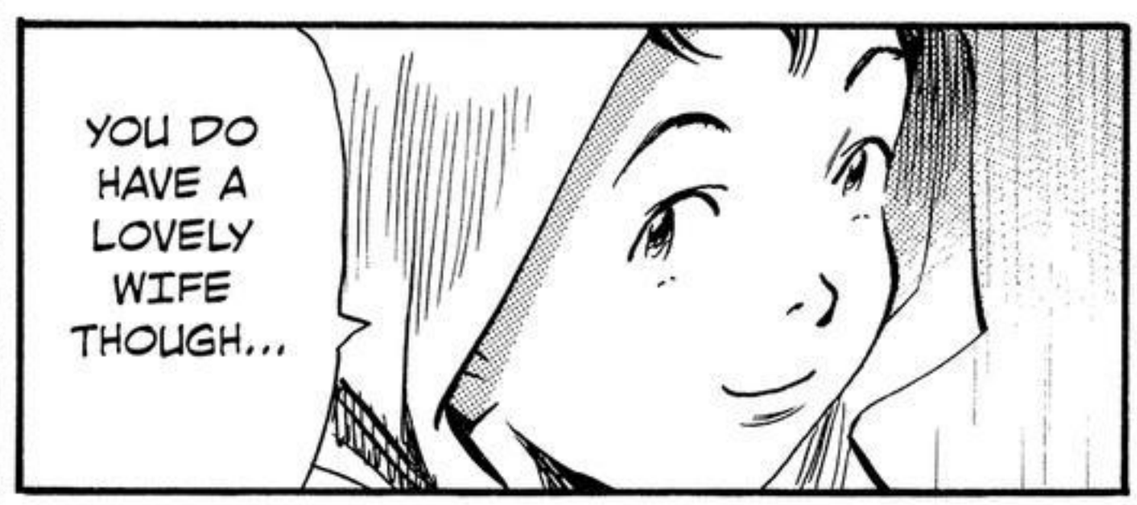

YEAH...
SURE RAINS A LOT HERE...

YOU PLANNED A VACATION WITH HER IN JAPAN, RIGHT?

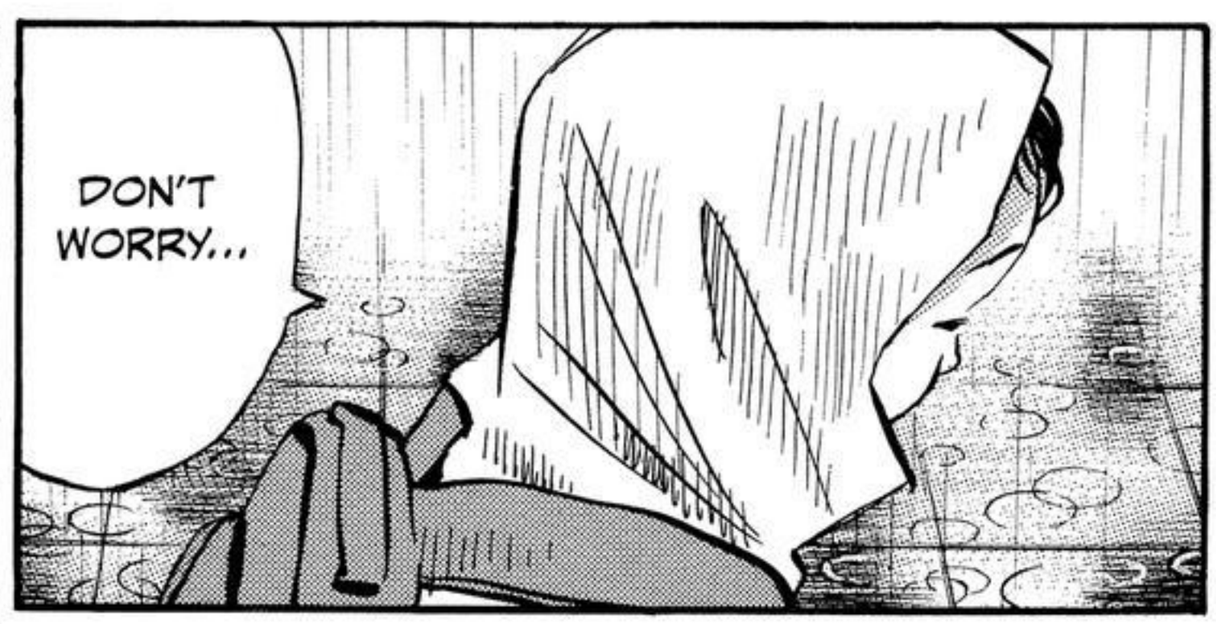

?!
MAYBE YOU CAN COME VISIT WITH YOUR WIFE NEXT TIME...


HEY! SINCE WHEN DO KIDS GET TO MAKE FUN OF THEIR ELDERS? I TOLD YOU TO *DELETE* THAT DATA!!

THIS IS *EXACTLY* WHAT I WAS AFRAID OF WHEN I GAVE YOU MY MEMORY CHIP...


YOU DO HAVE A LOVELY WIFE THOUGH...

YOU AND YOUR WIFE WILL BE FINE...


DON'T WORRY...

?

WHATEVER COMES YOUR WAY, THE TWO OF YOU CAN HANDLE IT...

THANKS, ATOM...

IT'S A PROMISE, OKAY?

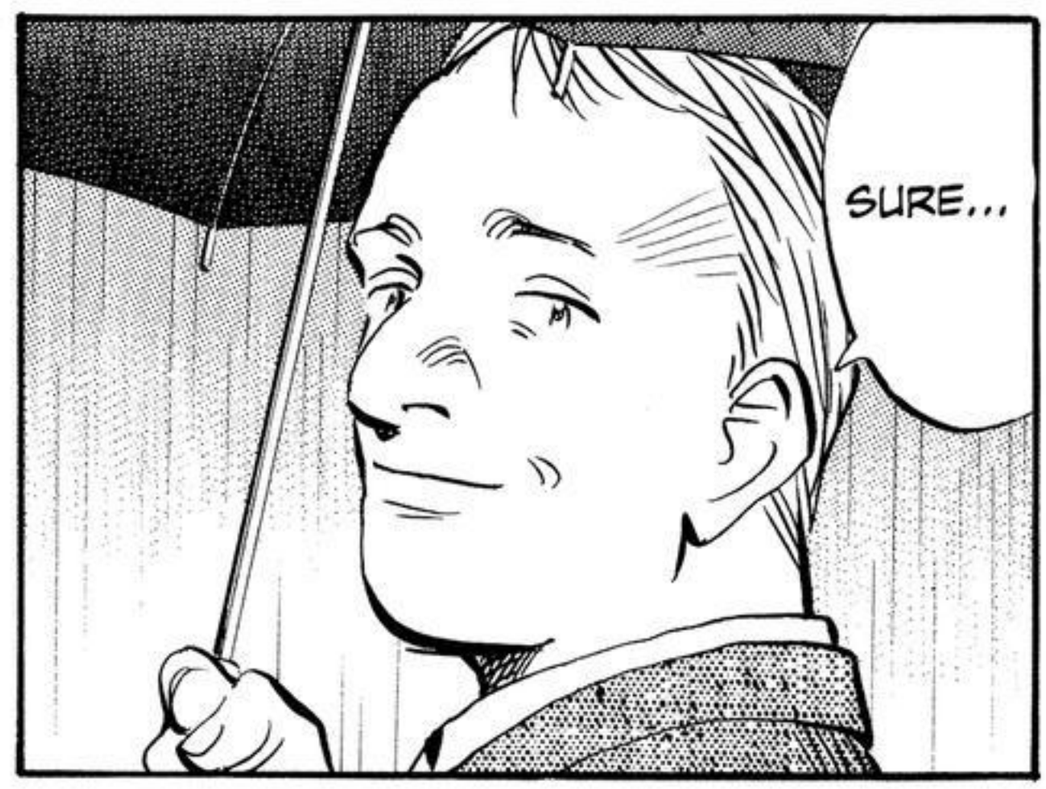
COME BACK AND VISIT...

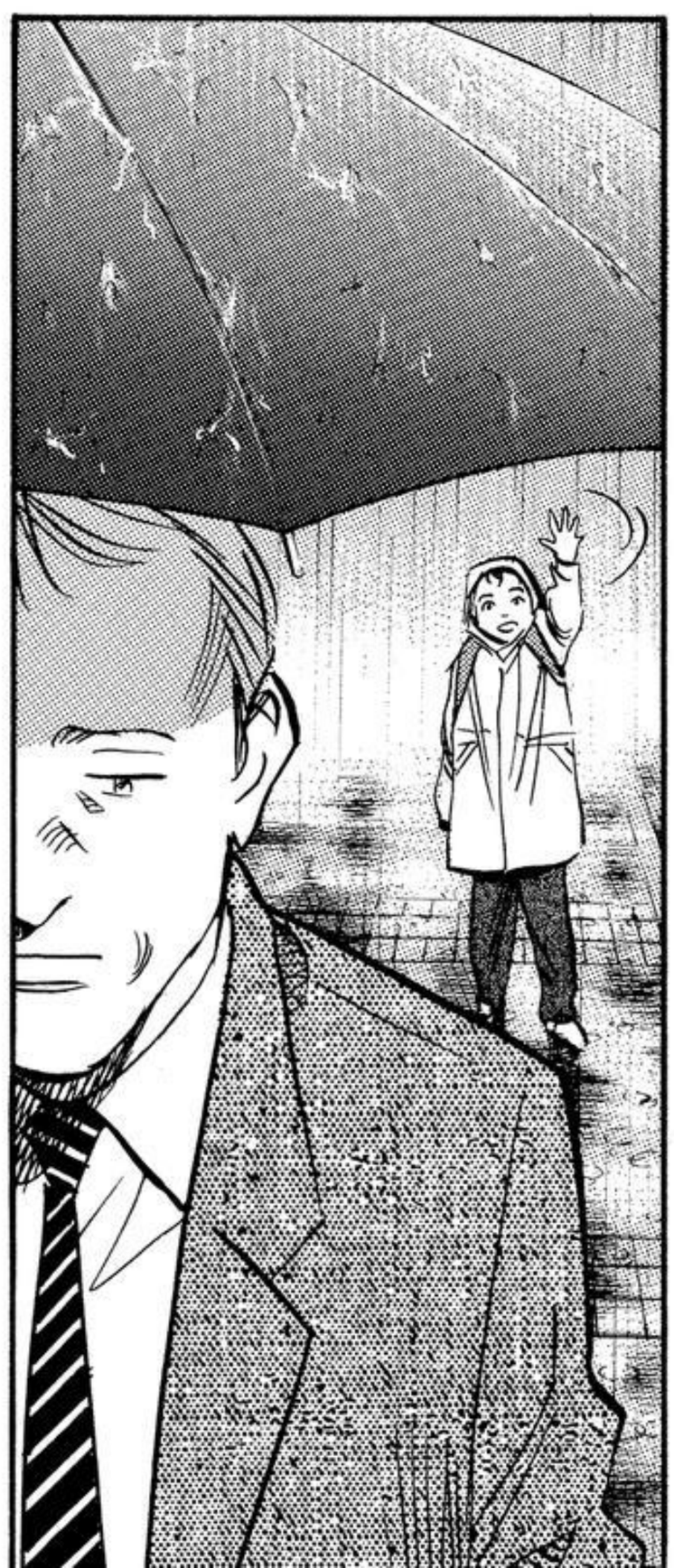
WELL I GUESS THIS IS WHERE WE SAY GOOD-BYE...

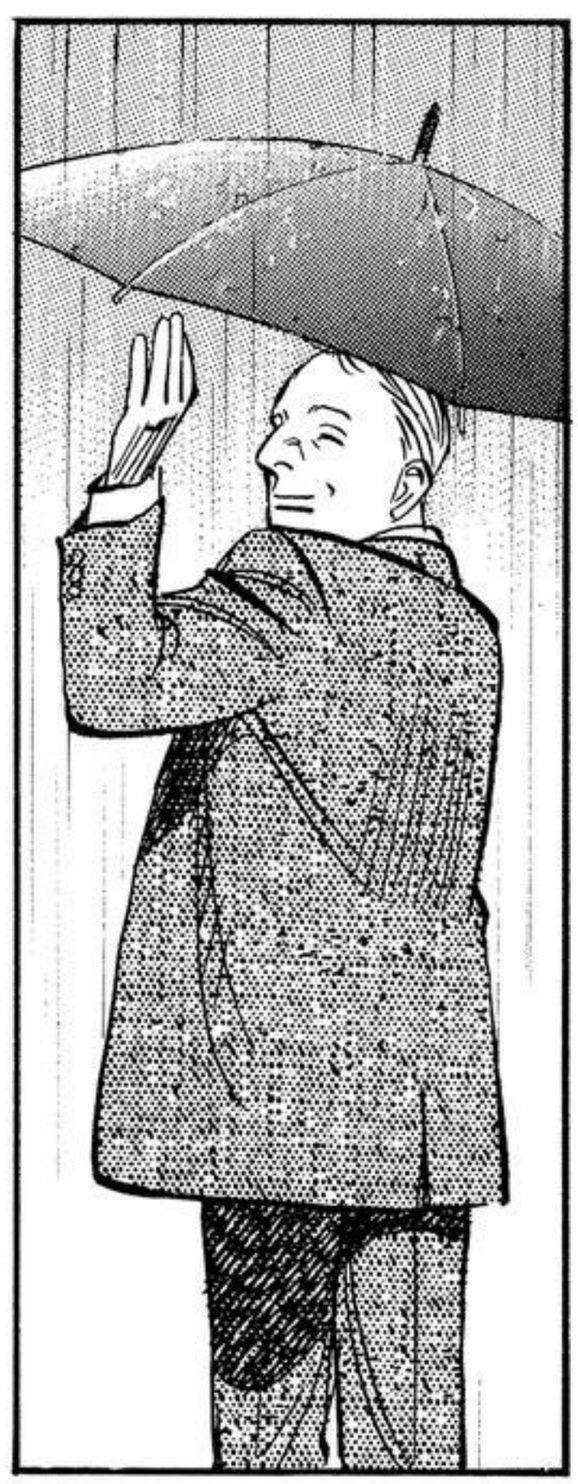
MOM AND DAD WOULD LOVE TO MEET YOU! AND MY SISTER TOO!
YEAH, YOU'VE GOTTA COME VISIT MY FAMILY...

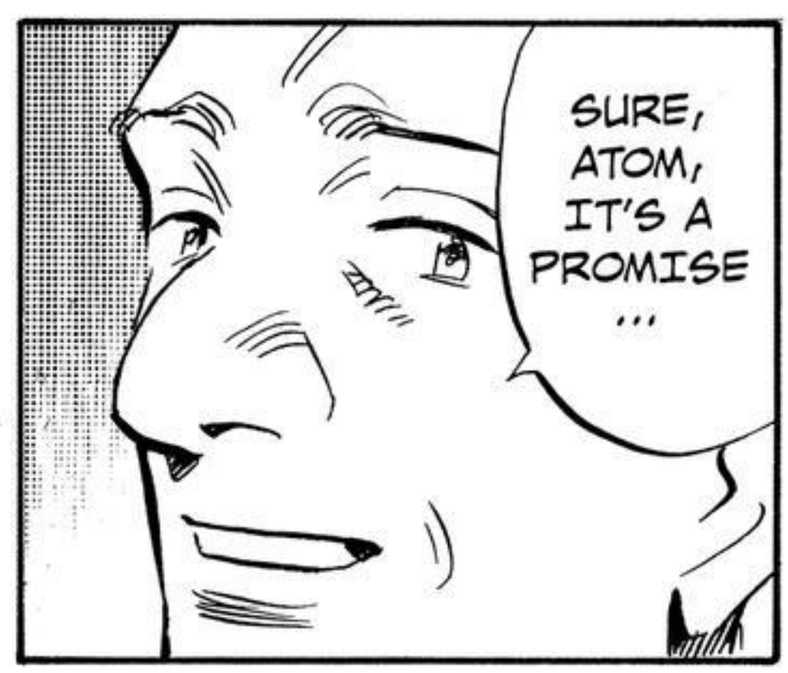
MAYBE YOU CAN SHOW US THE SIGHTS IN TOKYO...
SURE... AND I'LL BRING MY WIFE...

IT'S A *PROMISE*, RIGHT?


SURE...






SURE, ATOM, IT'S A PROMISE ...

KEPT WAVING UNTIL I COULDN'T SEE HIM ANYMORE...

THE KID STOOD THERE AND KEPT WAVING GOOD-BYE...

...BUT I SOMEHOW FOUND MYSELF OVERCOME WITH EMOTION...

I MAY BE A ROBOT ...

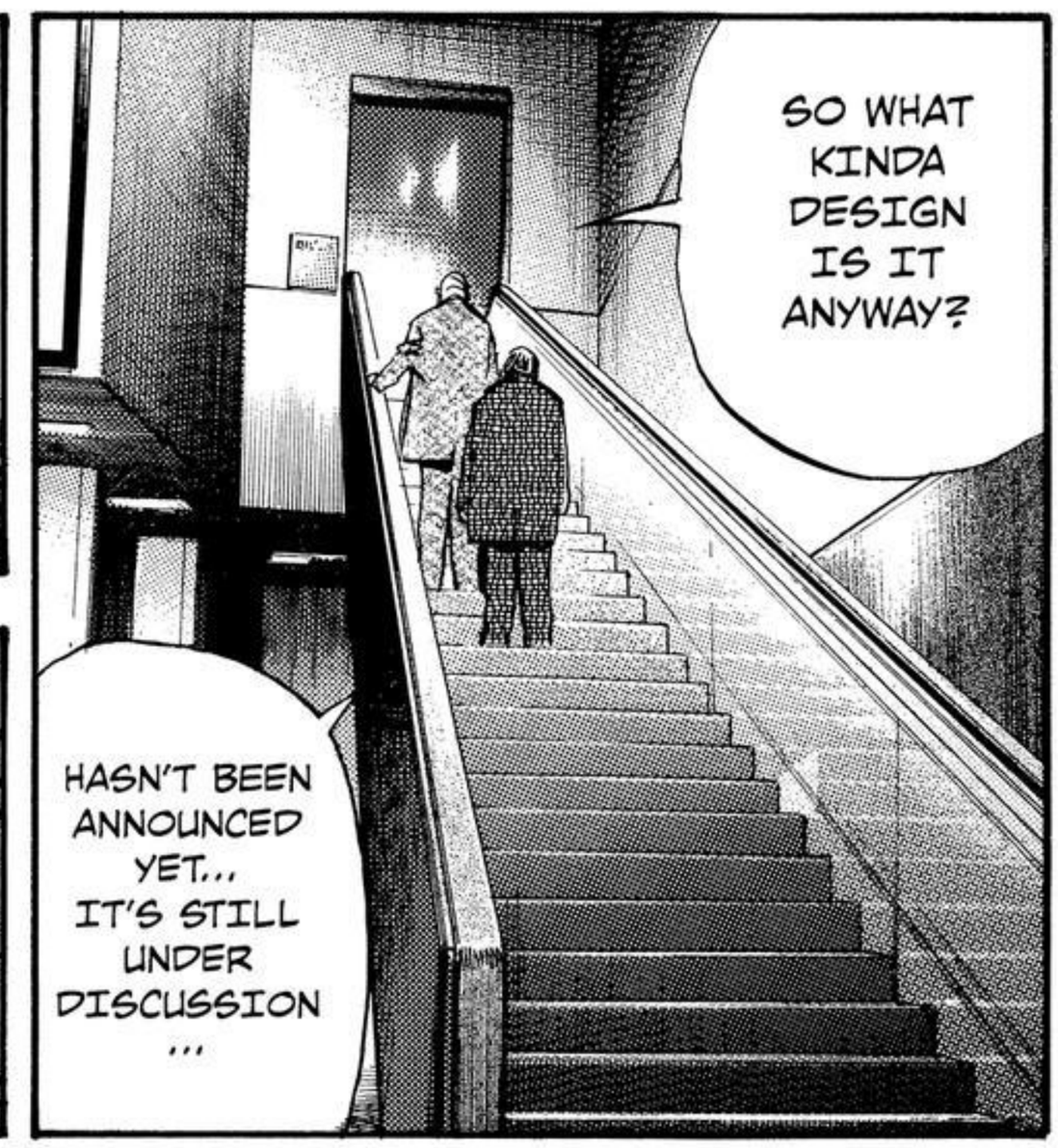
Act 9 PROFESSOR OCHANOMIZU

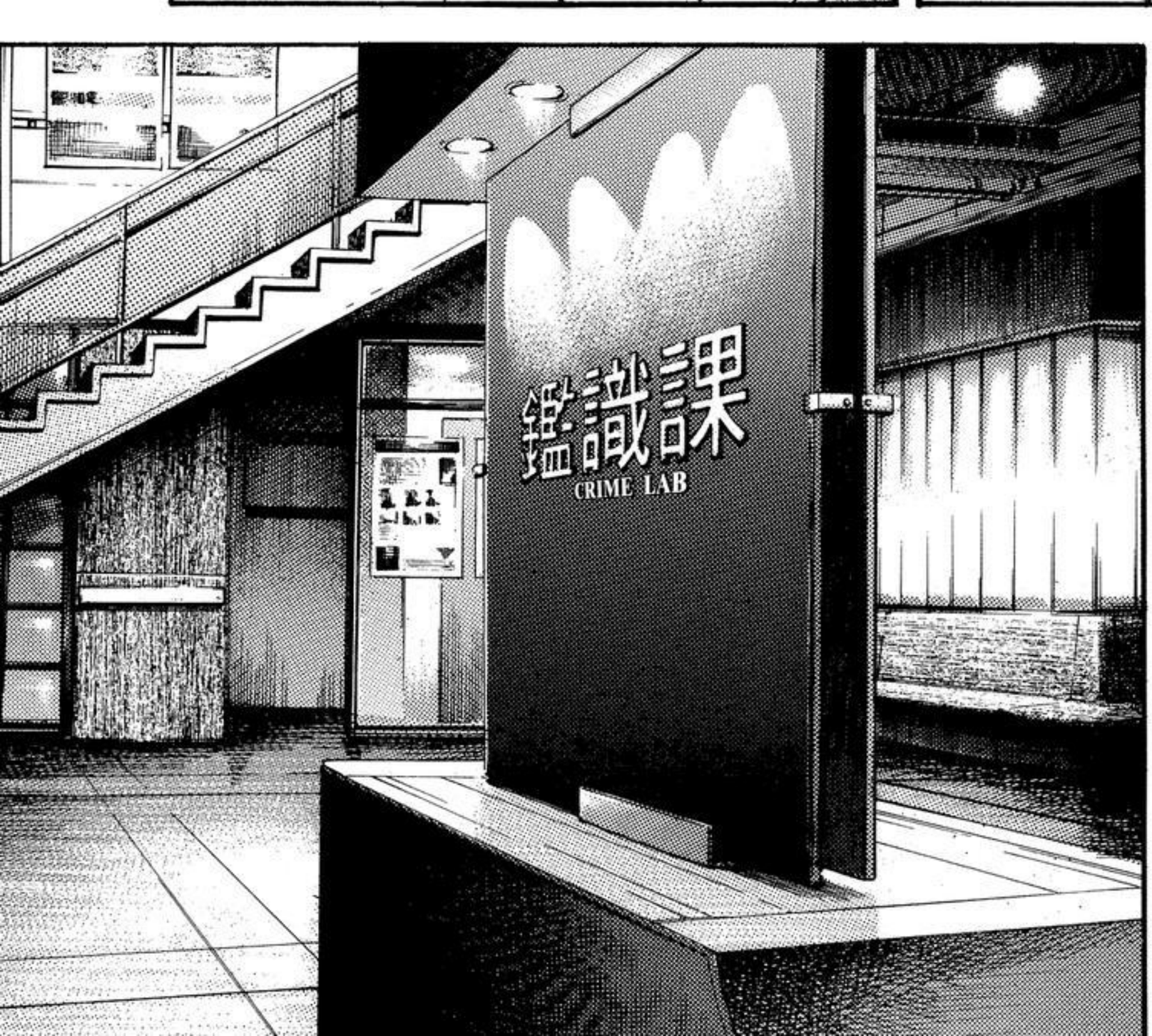
警視庁
METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

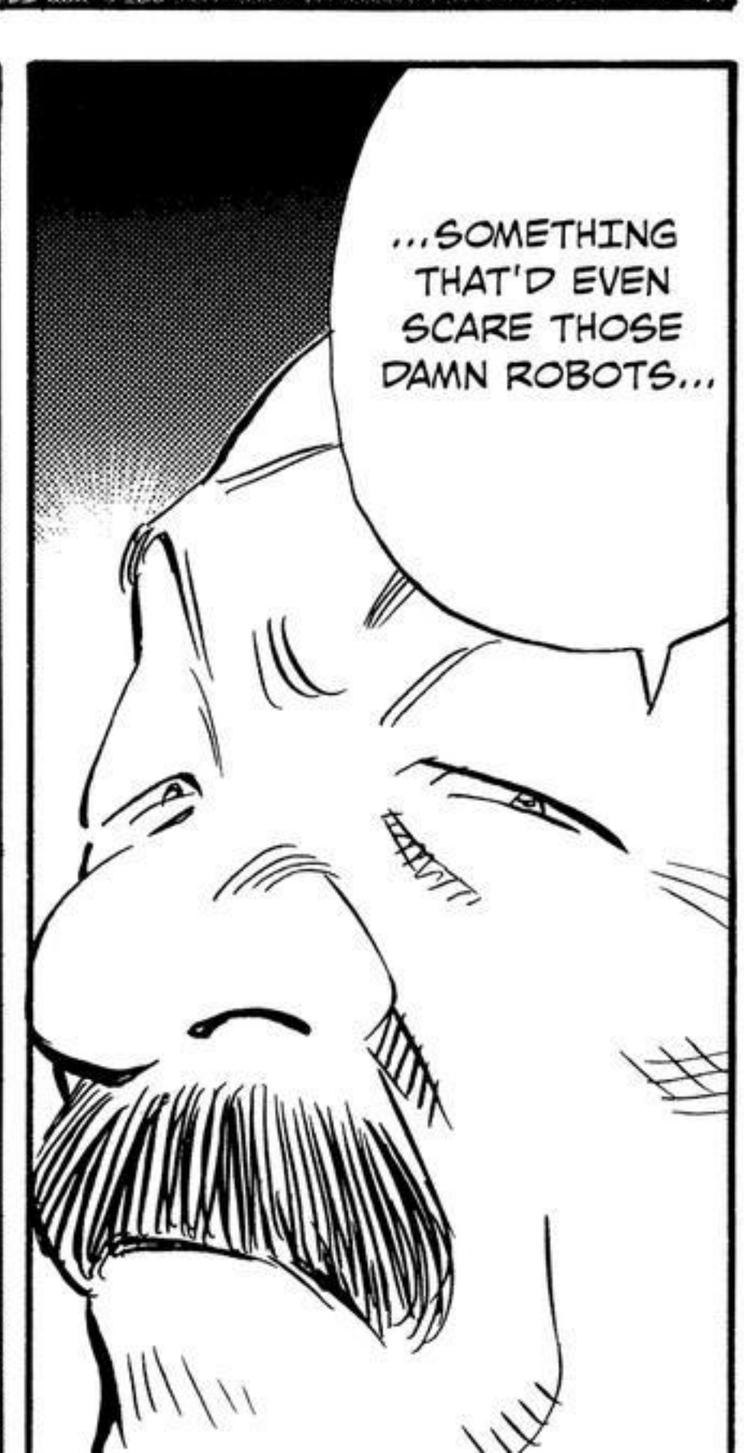
POLICE HEADQUARTERS

YEAH, SURE... LIKE FANCY COP CARS ARE GONNA WIN US FRIENDS, RIGHT?

BUT, SUPERINTENDENT TAWASHI, YOU KNOW WE'VE GOTTA MAKE OUR POLICE FORCE MORE *LOVEABLE*...

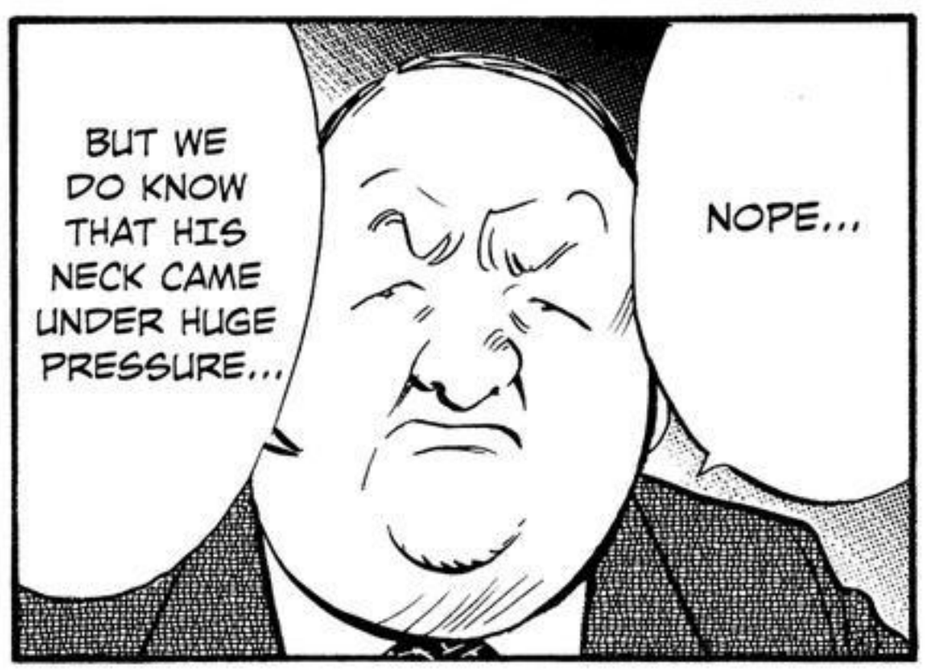


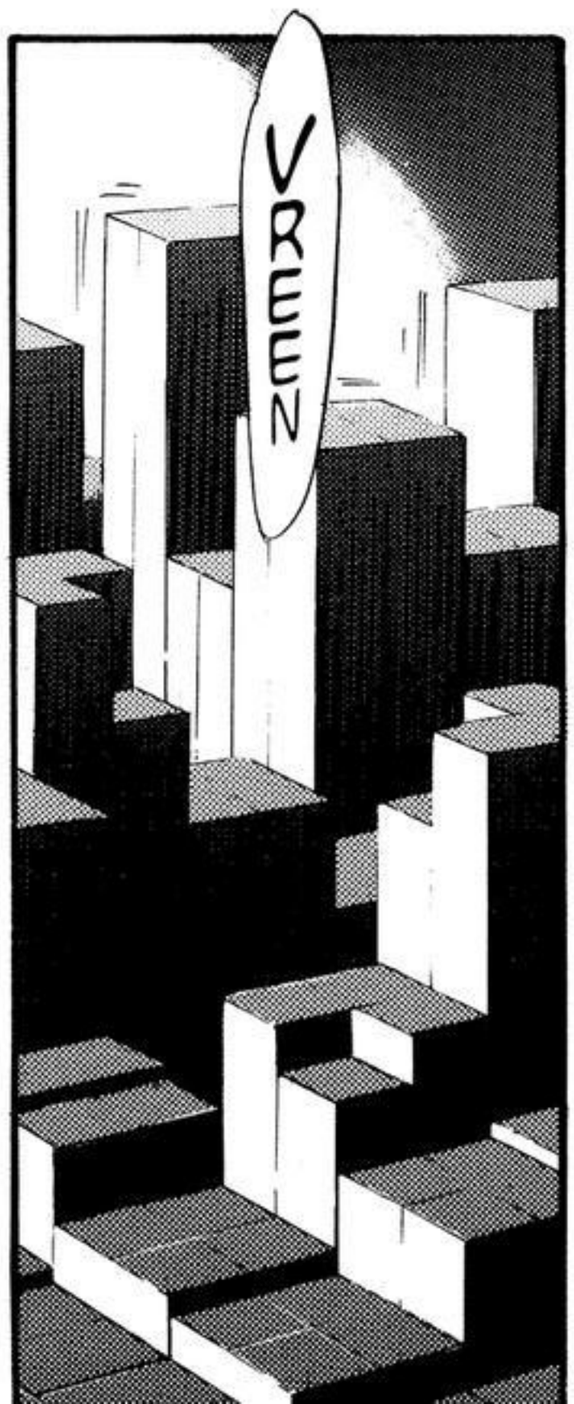




YOU GET THE AUTOPSY RESULTS BACK YET?

YEAH...

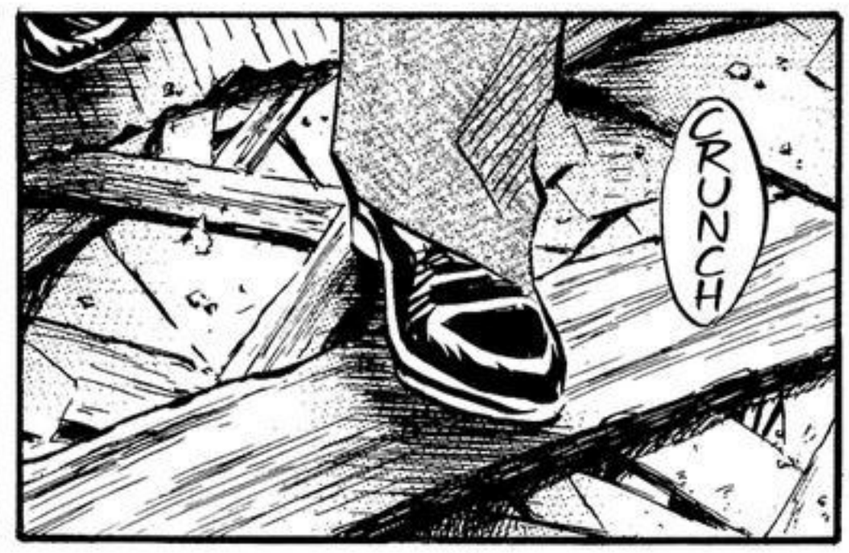


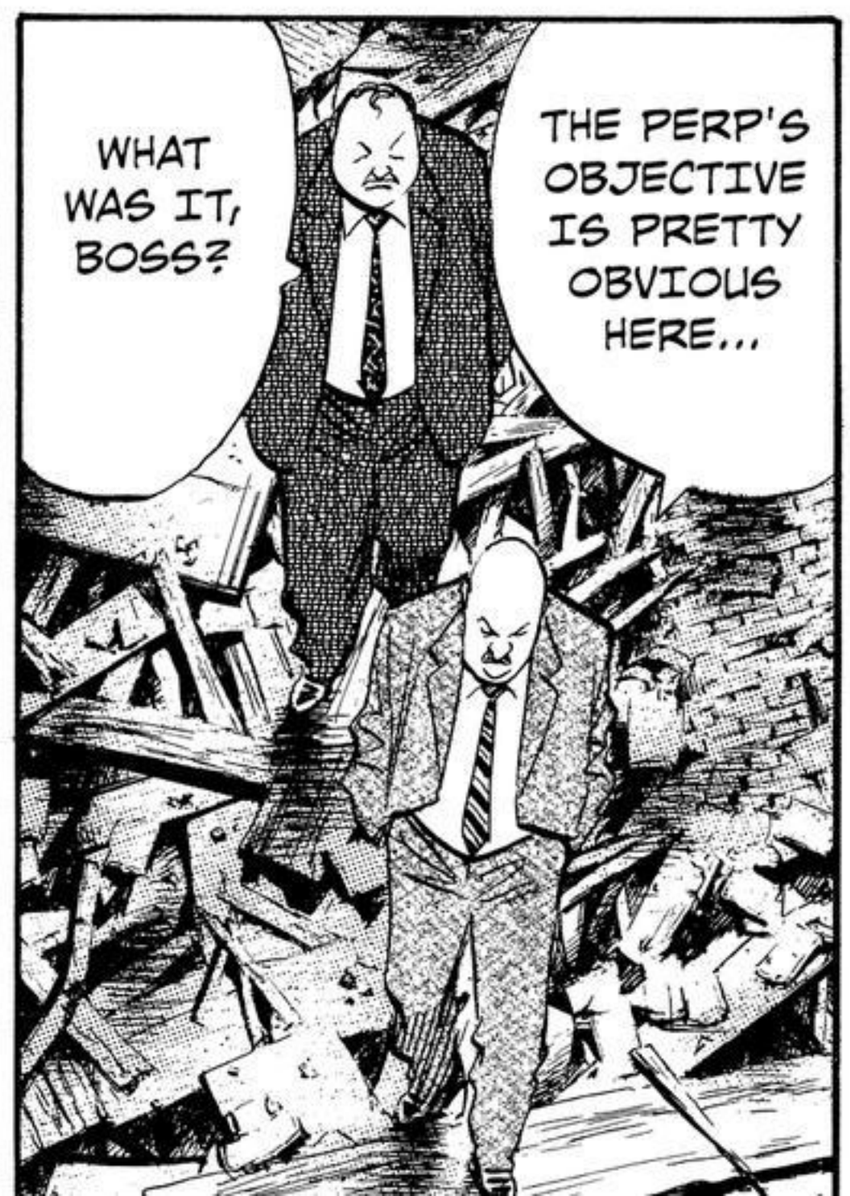


VREEN

SURE SEEMS STRANGE TO ME...

TO NOT LEAVE ANY EVIDENCE BEHIND...


CRUNCH


WHAT WAS IT, BOSS?
THE PERP'S OBJECTIVE IS PRETTY OBVIOUS HERE...

...!!

Act 9
PROFESSOR OCHANOMIZU

ATOM!

WHAT THE--?!

HEY! WHO LET YOU IN HERE?!

LONG TIME NO SEE, SUPER-INTENDENT TAWASHI, INSPECTOR NAKAMURA...

UH, HI...

OH, I'VE GOT A *PERMIT*, SEE?

SO I'VE GOT EVERYTHING ON THE MONT BLANC CASE IN SWITZERLAND, AND EVEN THE DÜSSELDORF CASE...

WELL, I'VE INPUT INSPECTOR GESICHT'S ENTIRE MEMORY IN MY SYSTEM, AND HE'S THE EUROPOL SPECIAL INVESTIGATOR ASSIGNED TO THE CASE...

EUROPOL WANTS YOUR COOPERATION IN THE INVESTIGA-TION, RIGHT?

...

...SWAPPING THE CONTENTS OF EACH OTHER'S MINDS LIKE THAT...
HOW CONVENIENT IT IS FOR YOU ROBOTS...

HMPH!

BUT IF YOU THINK THAT MAKES YOU ANY SMARTER, YOU'RE WRONG!

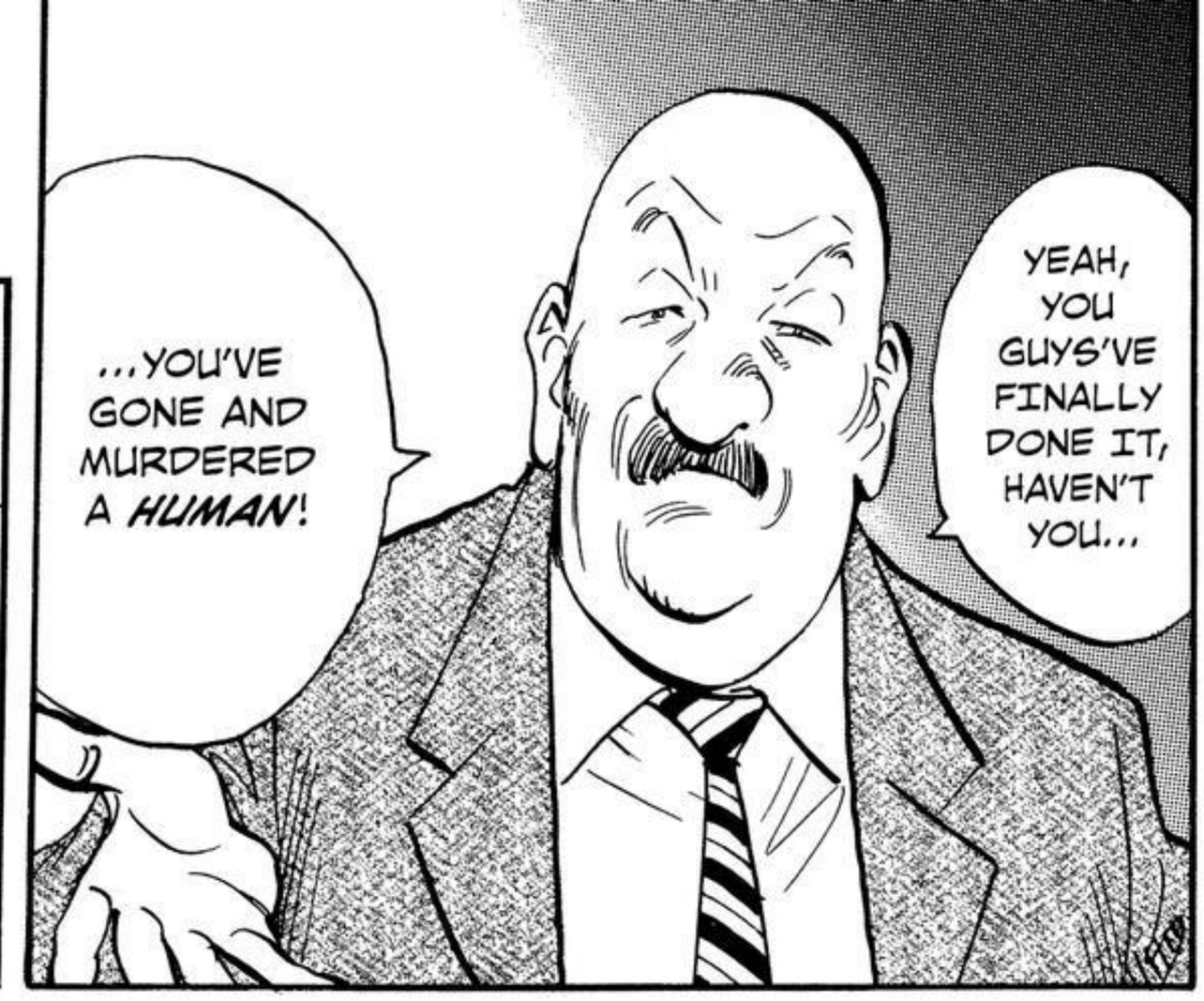
WHEN IT COMES TO BEAUTY OR TASTE, YOU GUYS DON'T HAVE A CLUE!

HM?
ANYWAYS, I SUPPOSE IT'LL BE EASIER FOR YOUR KIND TO FIND THE CULPRIT IN THIS CASE, RIGHT?

FIND SOME-THING?

NO...

WHAT MAKES YOU SAY THAT?
?


...YOU'VE GONE AND MURDERED A *HUMAN*!
YEAH, YOU GUYS'VE FINALLY DONE IT, HAVEN'T YOU...

BUT THERE'S NOTHING HERE!

LET'S SEE...

FINGER-PRINTS, HAIR... *SOMETHING*...
WELL, A HUMAN'D LEAVE *SOME* TRACE OF EVIDENCE!

HUH?

WHAT'S THIS...?

THERE'S A TEA CUP BENEATH ALL THIS RUBBLE...

YESSIR!

RED BEAN DESSERT?

HEY! PICK UP THIS SPOT!!

A *TEA CUP*?

ALSO SOME *YOKAN* RED BEAN DESSERT ...

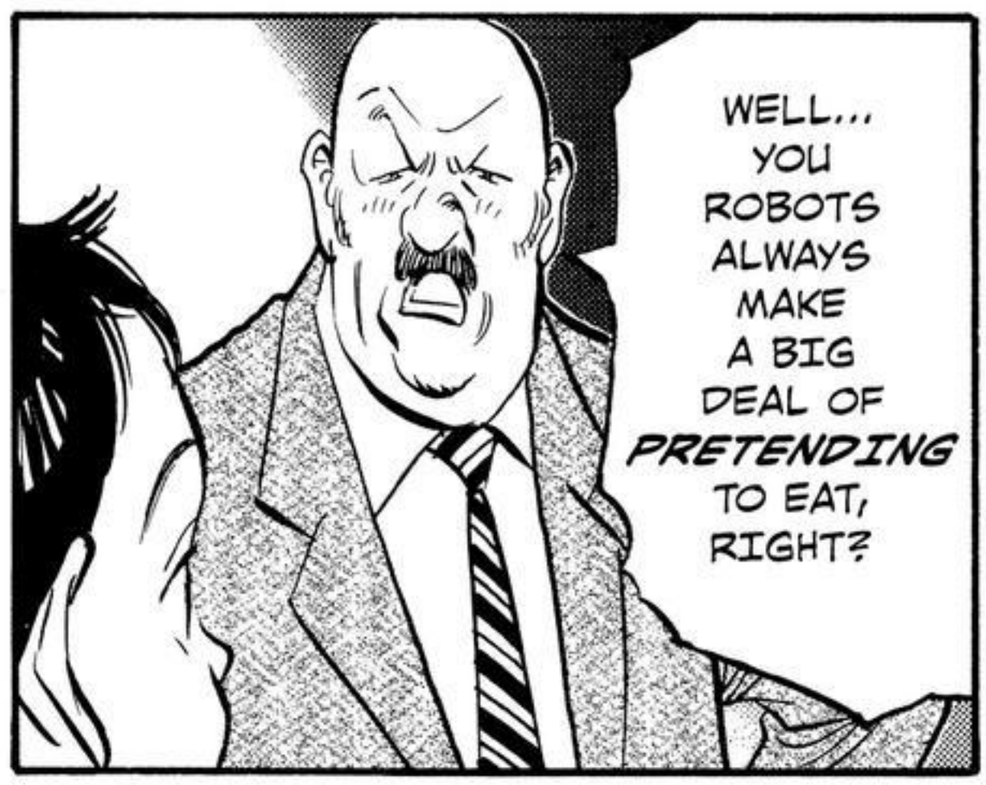
YEAH... ACTUALLY THERE'RE TWO BROKEN TEA CUPS...

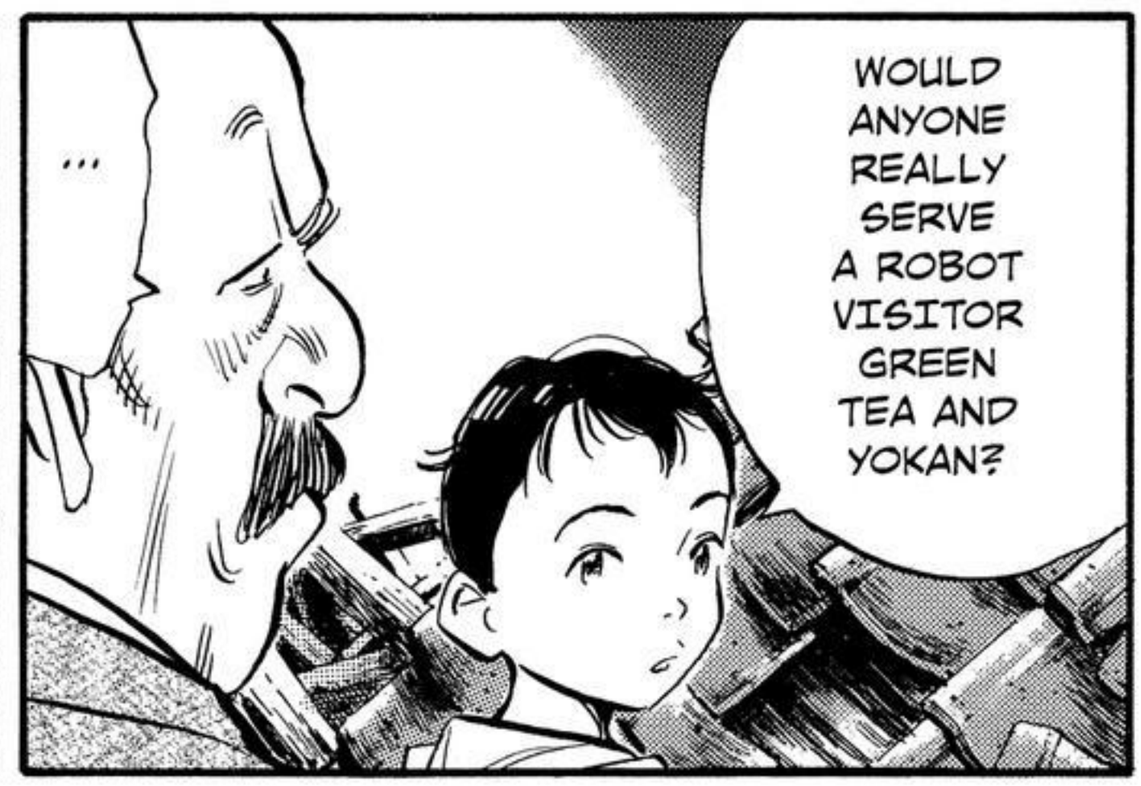
ZWEET

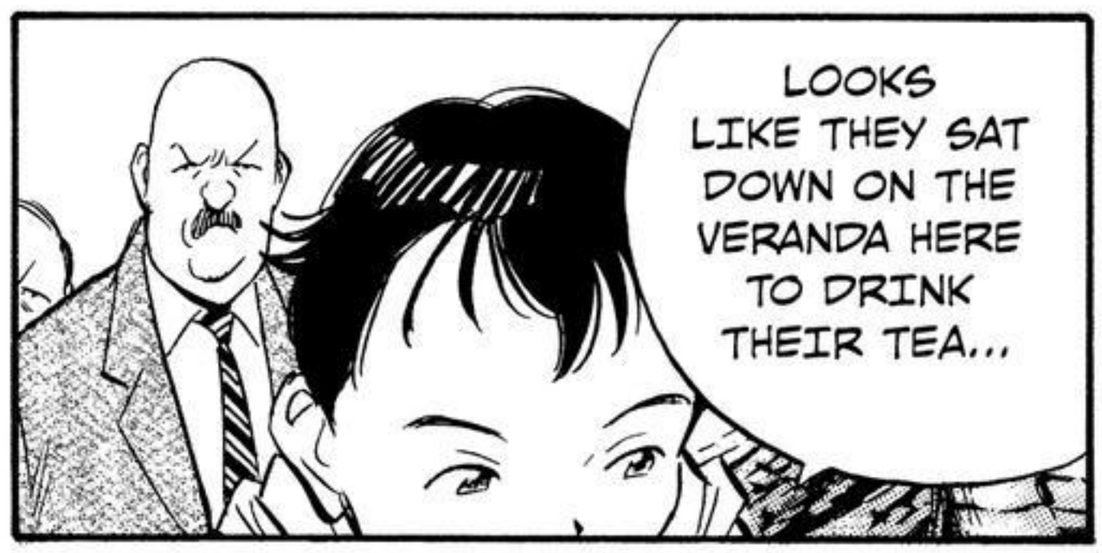
MAKES SENSE, SIR...

DURING THE AUTOPSY, THEY DID FIND SOME TEA LEAVES AND YOKAN IN THE STOMACH OF THE DECEASED...

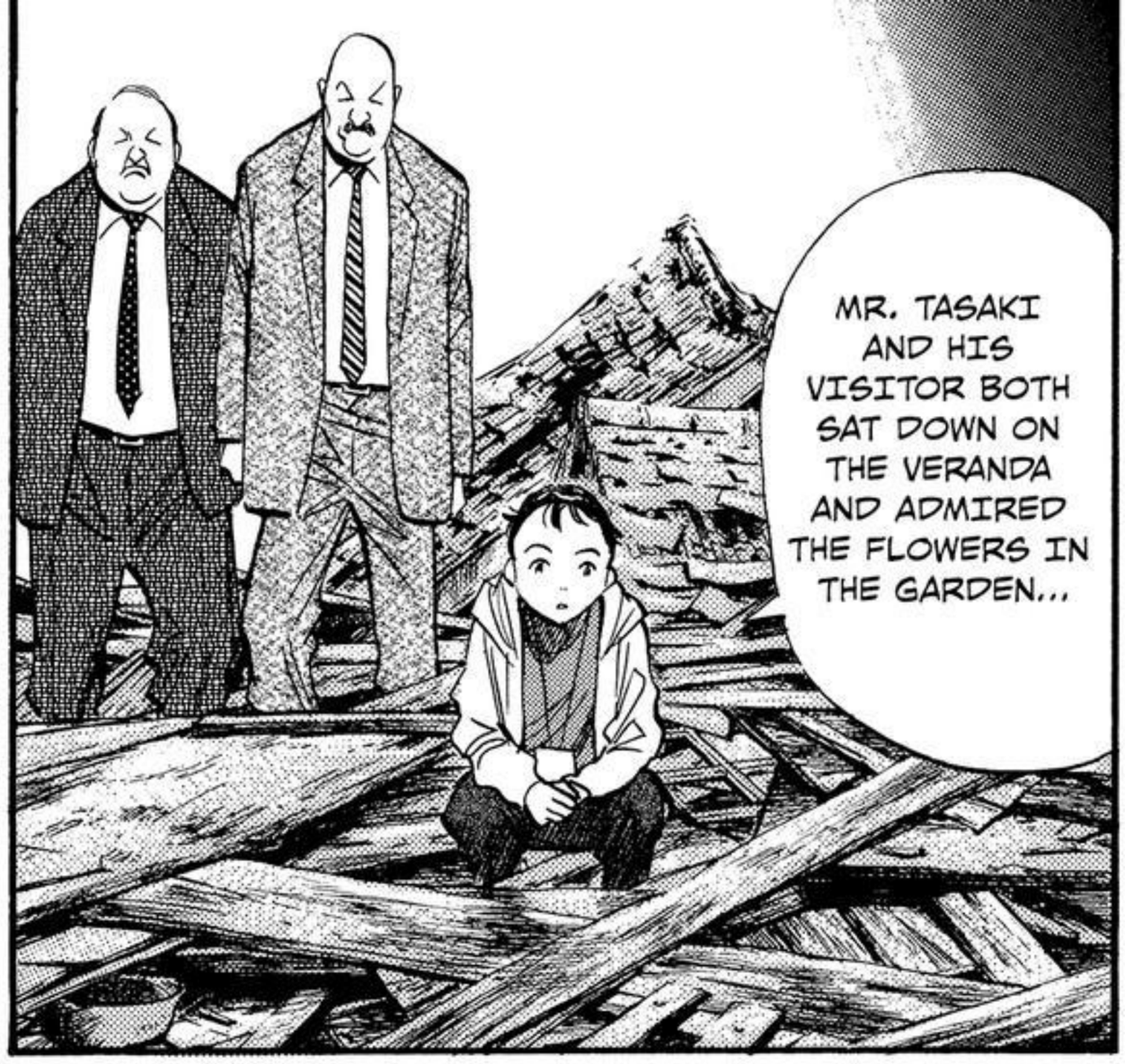
IT HASN'T BEEN SO LONG SINCE THE TEA IN THESE CUPS WAS PREPARED.

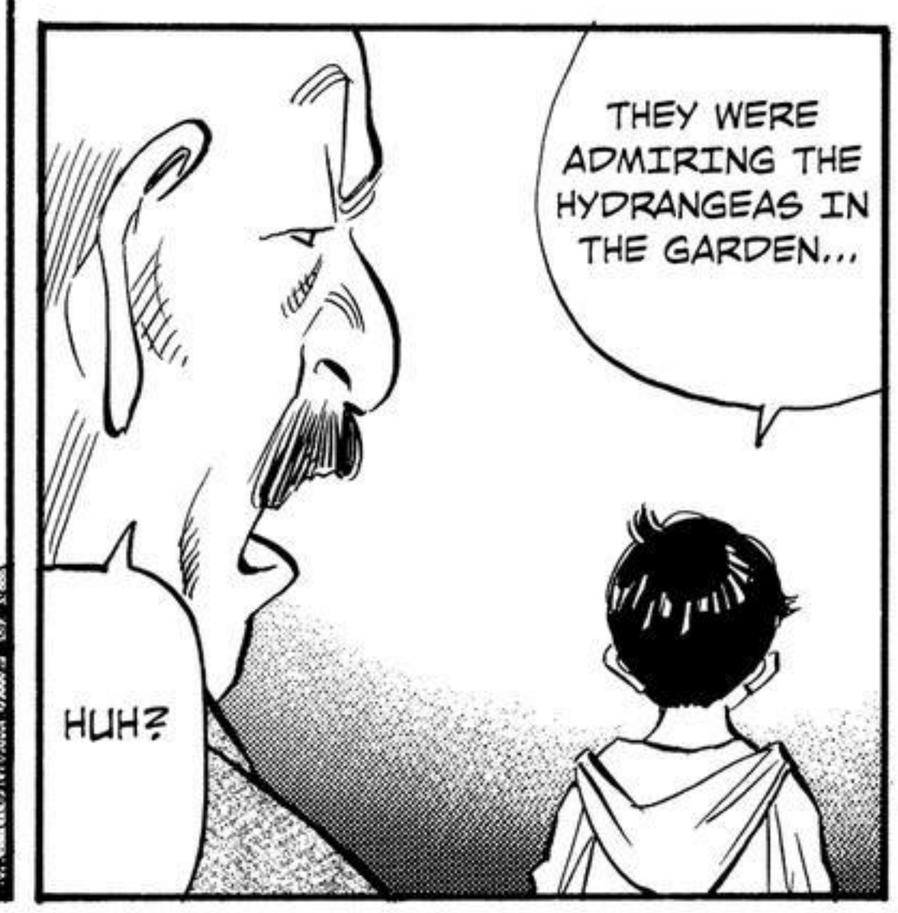

WELL... YOU ROBOTS ALWAYS MAKE A BIG DEAL OF *PRETENDING* TO EAT, RIGHT?

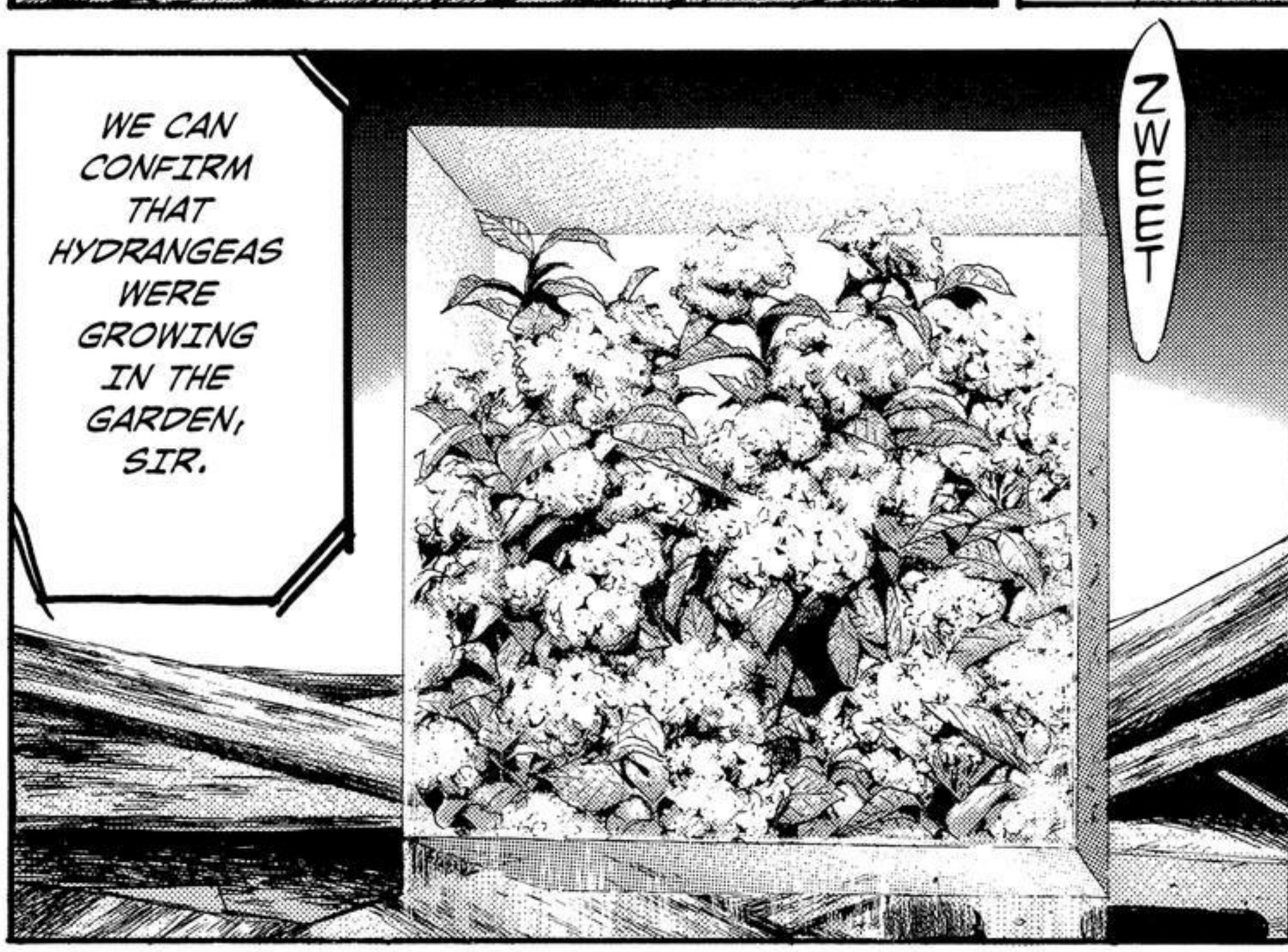

...
WOULD ANYONE REALLY SERVE A ROBOT VISITOR GREEN TEA AND YOKAN?


LOOKS LIKE THEY SAT DOWN ON THE VERANDA HERE TO DRINK THEIR TEA...

HMPH! CAT GOT YOUR TONGUE?

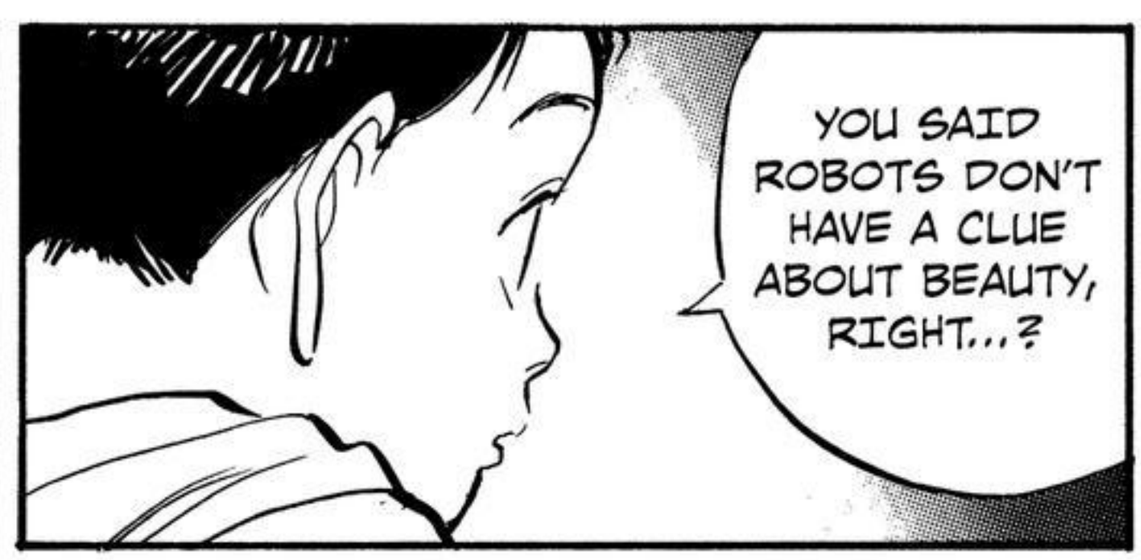

MR. TASAKI AND HIS VISITOR BOTH SAT DOWN ON THE VERANDA AND ADMIRED THE FLOWERS IN THE GARDEN...


THEY WERE ADMIRING THE HYDRANGEAS IN THE GARDEN...
HUH?


WE CAN CONFIRM THAT HYDRANGEAS WERE GROWING IN THE GARDEN, SIR.
ZWEET

HEY, PICK IT UP, PRONTO!

YOU STILL THINK A ROBOT DID IT?

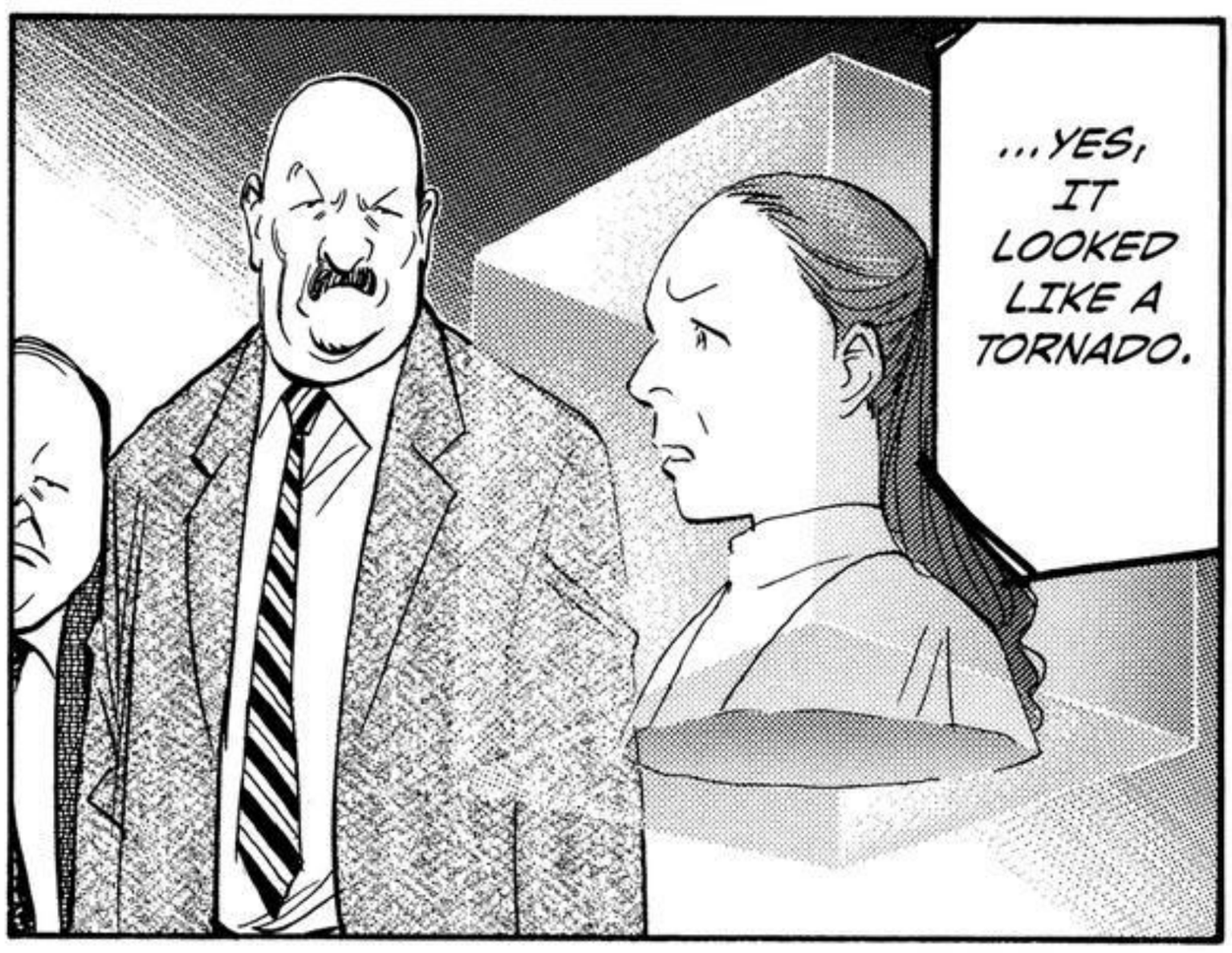

YOU SAID ROBOTS DON'T HAVE A CLUE ABOUT BEAUTY, RIGHT...?

...

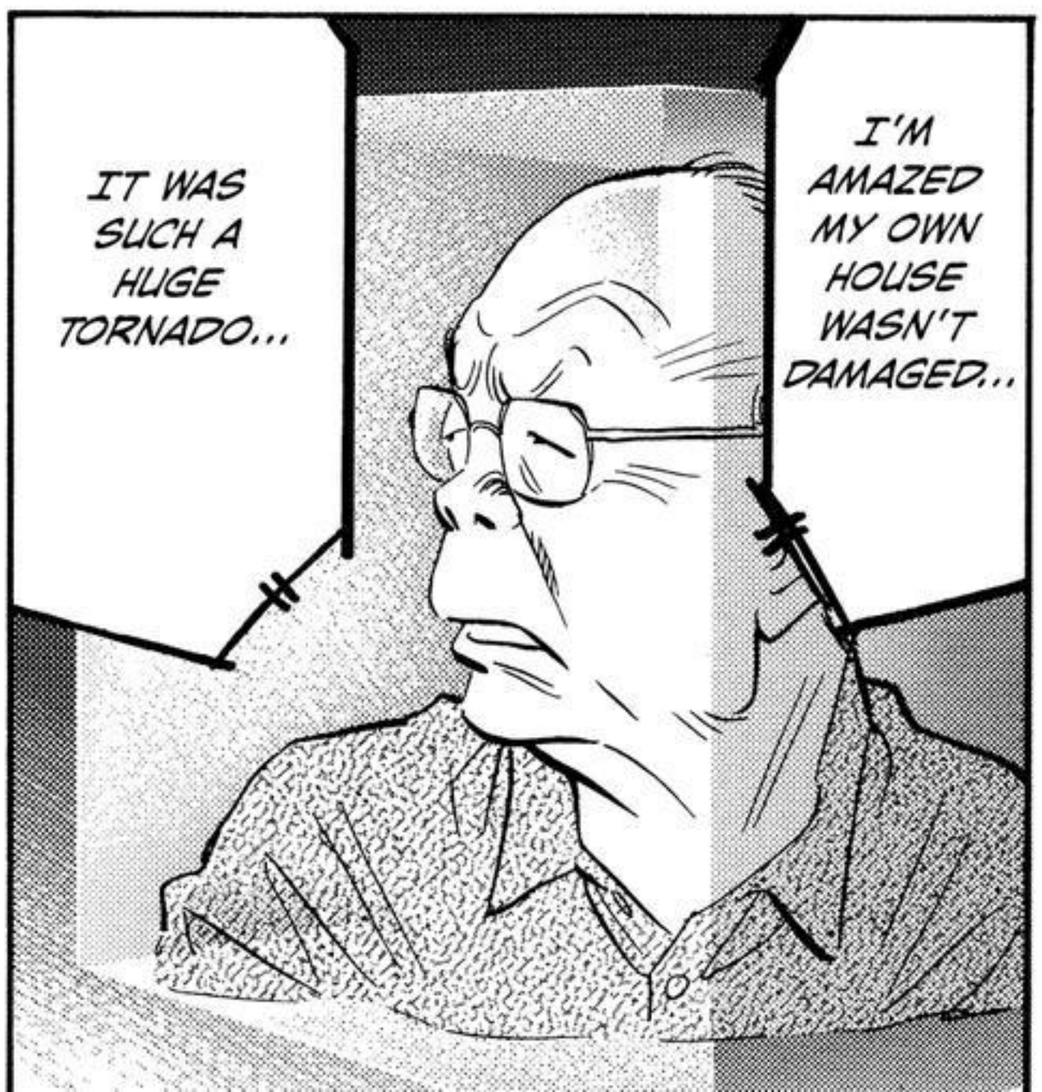
AFTER THEY DRANK TEA TOGETHER, THEY WENT OUT TO THE GARDEN...

SO WHAT? ARE YOU TRYING TO TELL US A *HUMAN* TORE THIS HOUSE APART WITH HIS OWN HANDS?

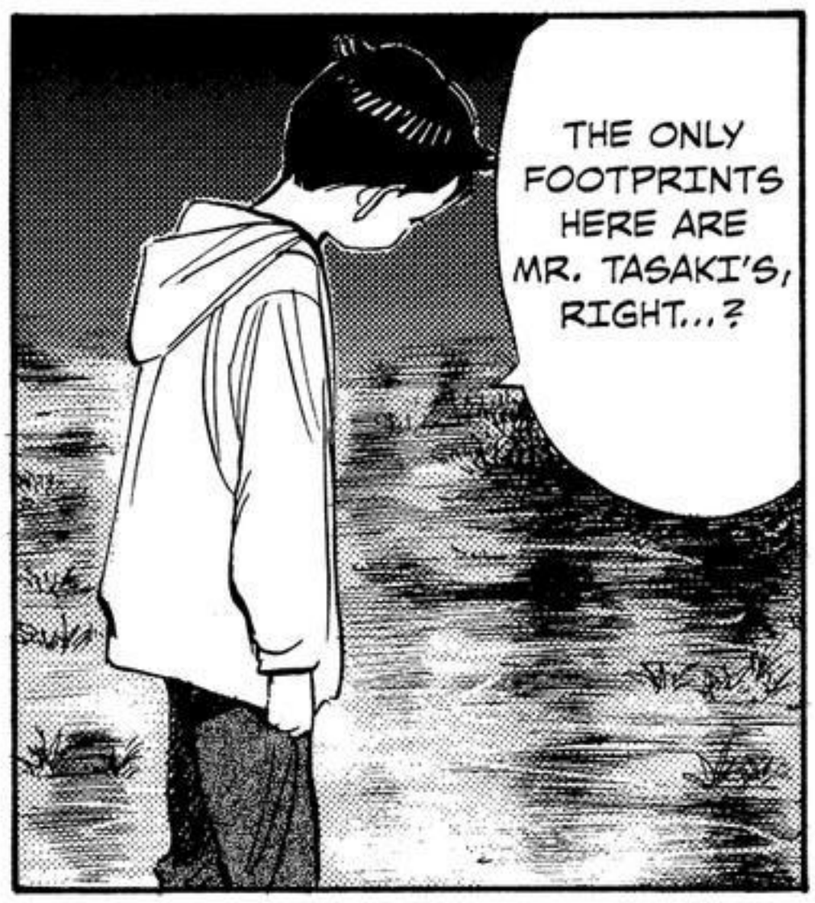
...AND THEN TOOK A BULLDOZER TO THE HOUSE, EH?
SO THE PERP GAZED HAPPILY AT THE HYDRAN-GEAS...

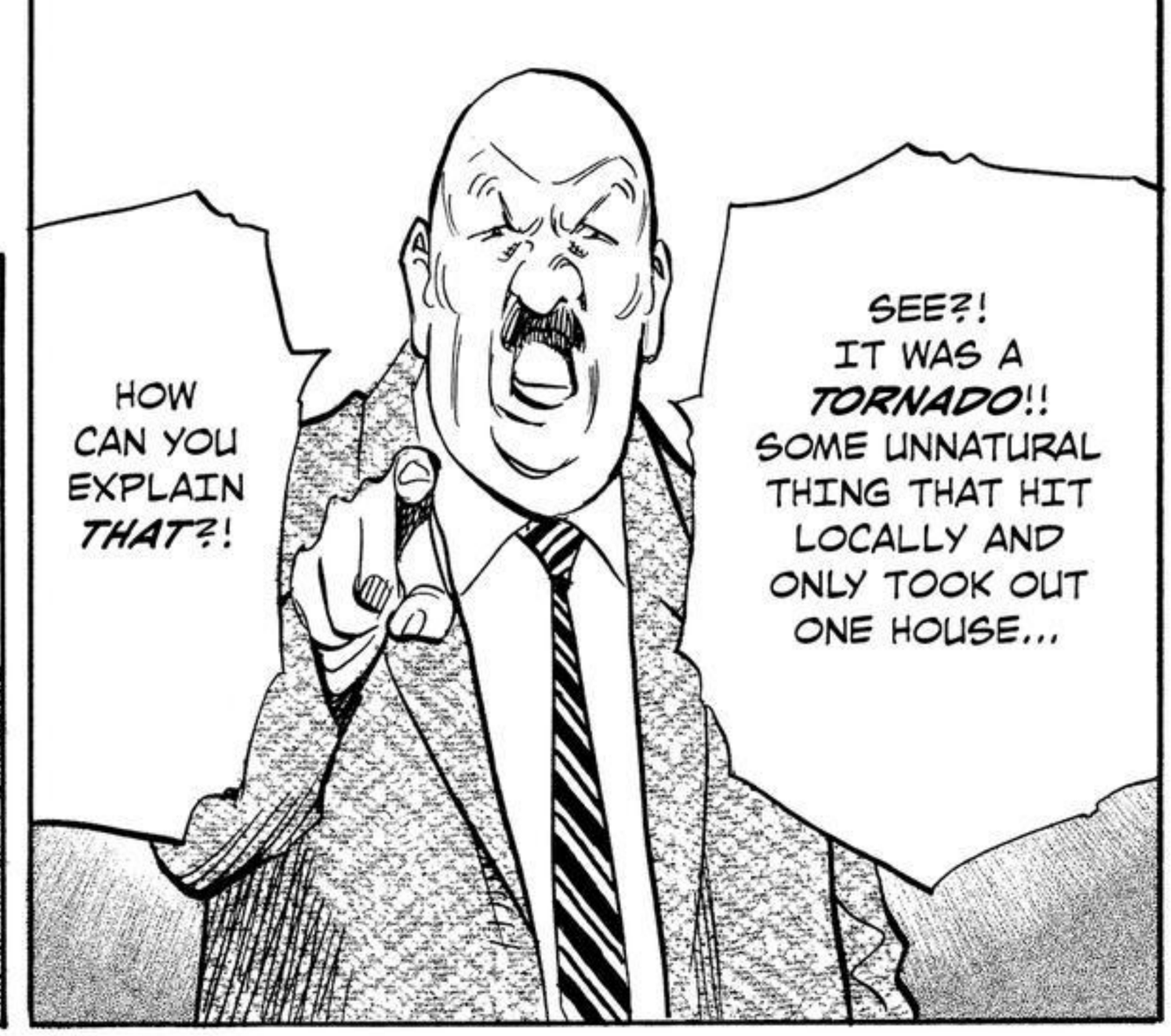

...YES, IT LOOKED LIKE A TORNADO.

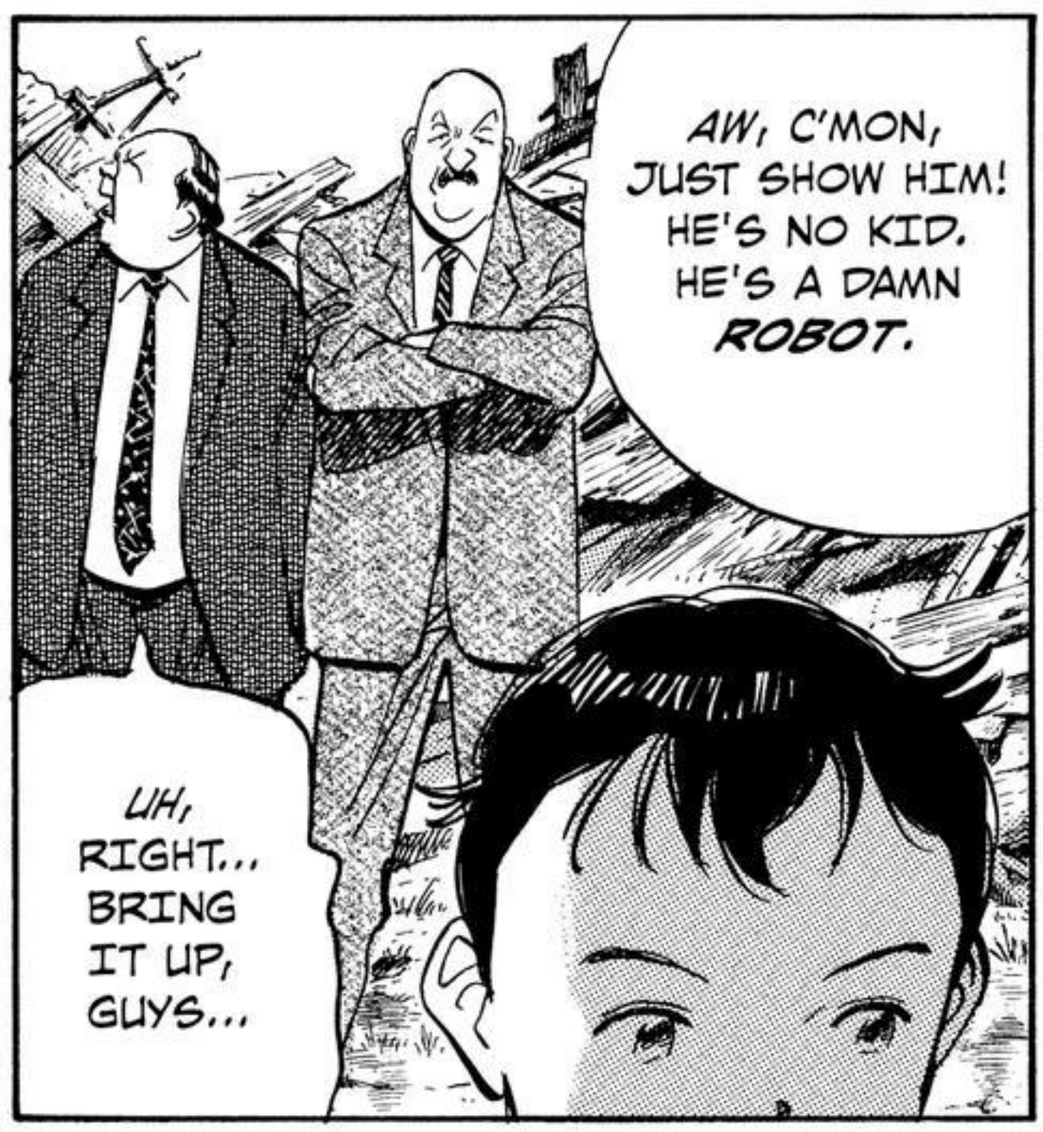
BRING UP THE VIDEO DEPOSI-TIONS!
YES SIR.

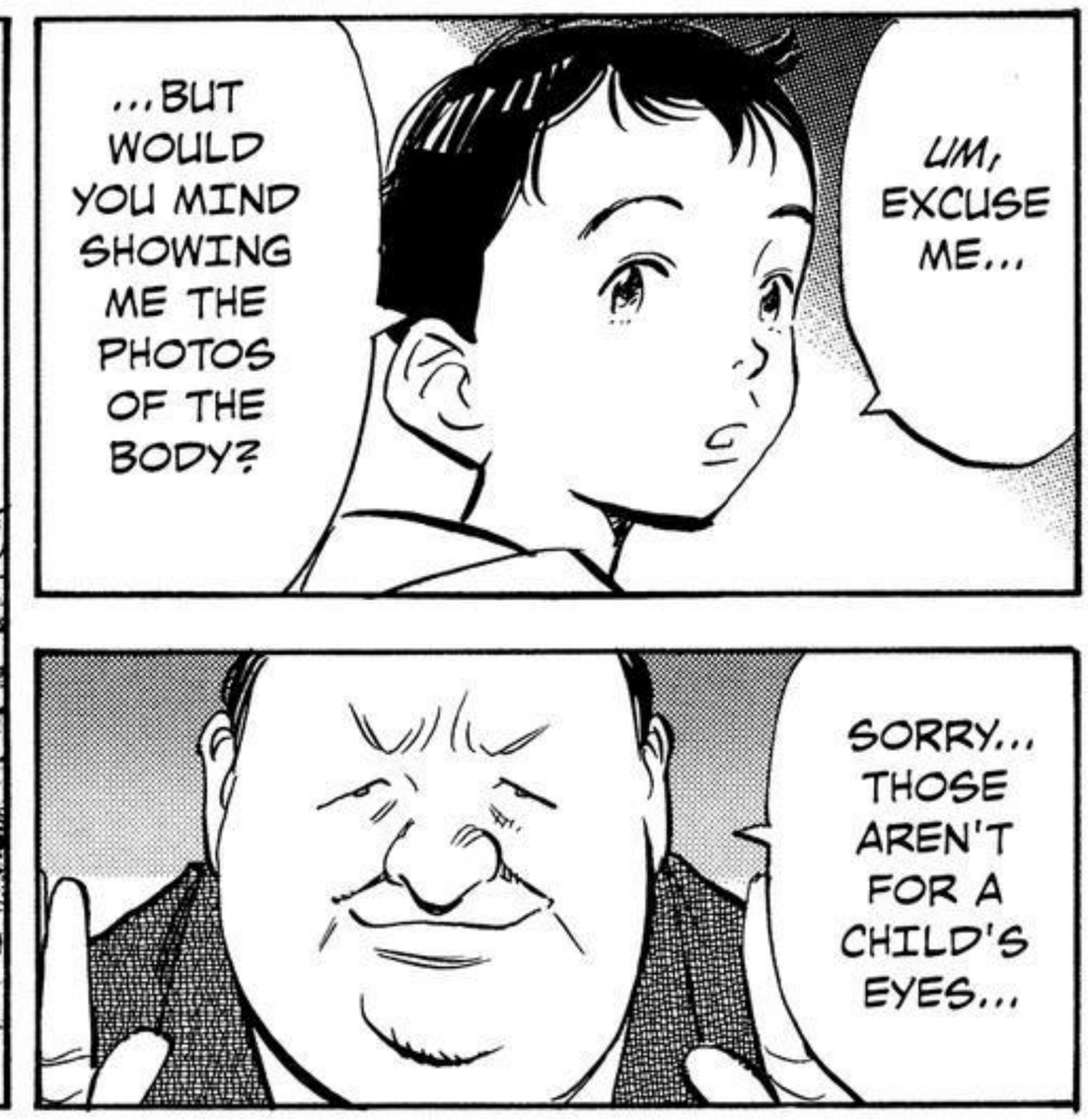

IT WAS SUCH A HUGE TORNADO...
I'M AMAZED MY OWN HOUSE WASN'T DAMAGED...

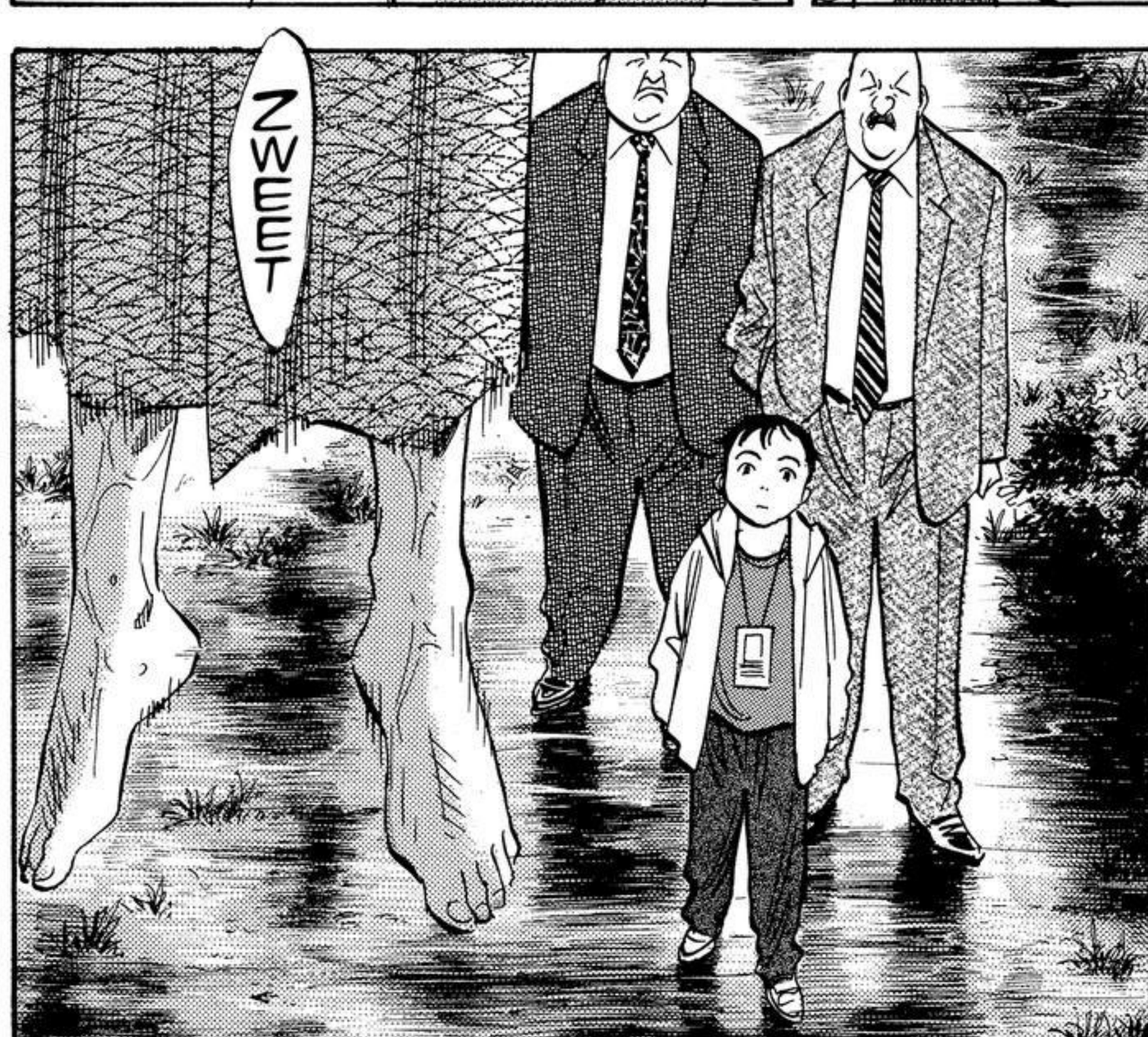
*AND SUDDENLY... THE HOUSE NEXT DOOR WAS **GONE**!*
THERE WAS THIS HUGE ROAR...

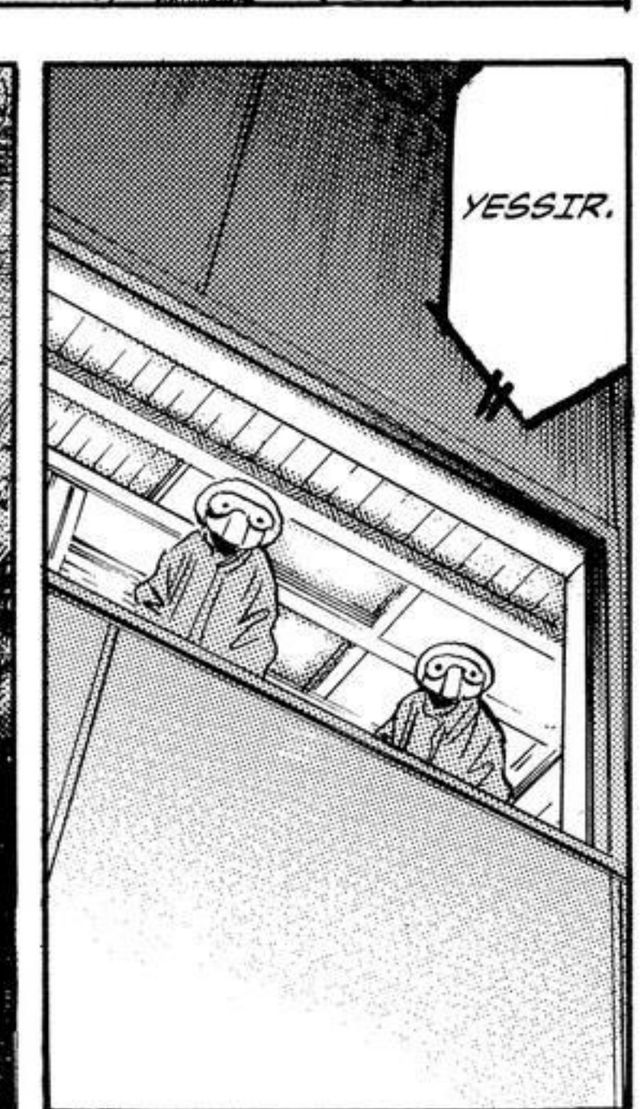

THE ONLY FOOTPRINTS HERE ARE MR. TASAKI'S, RIGHT...?

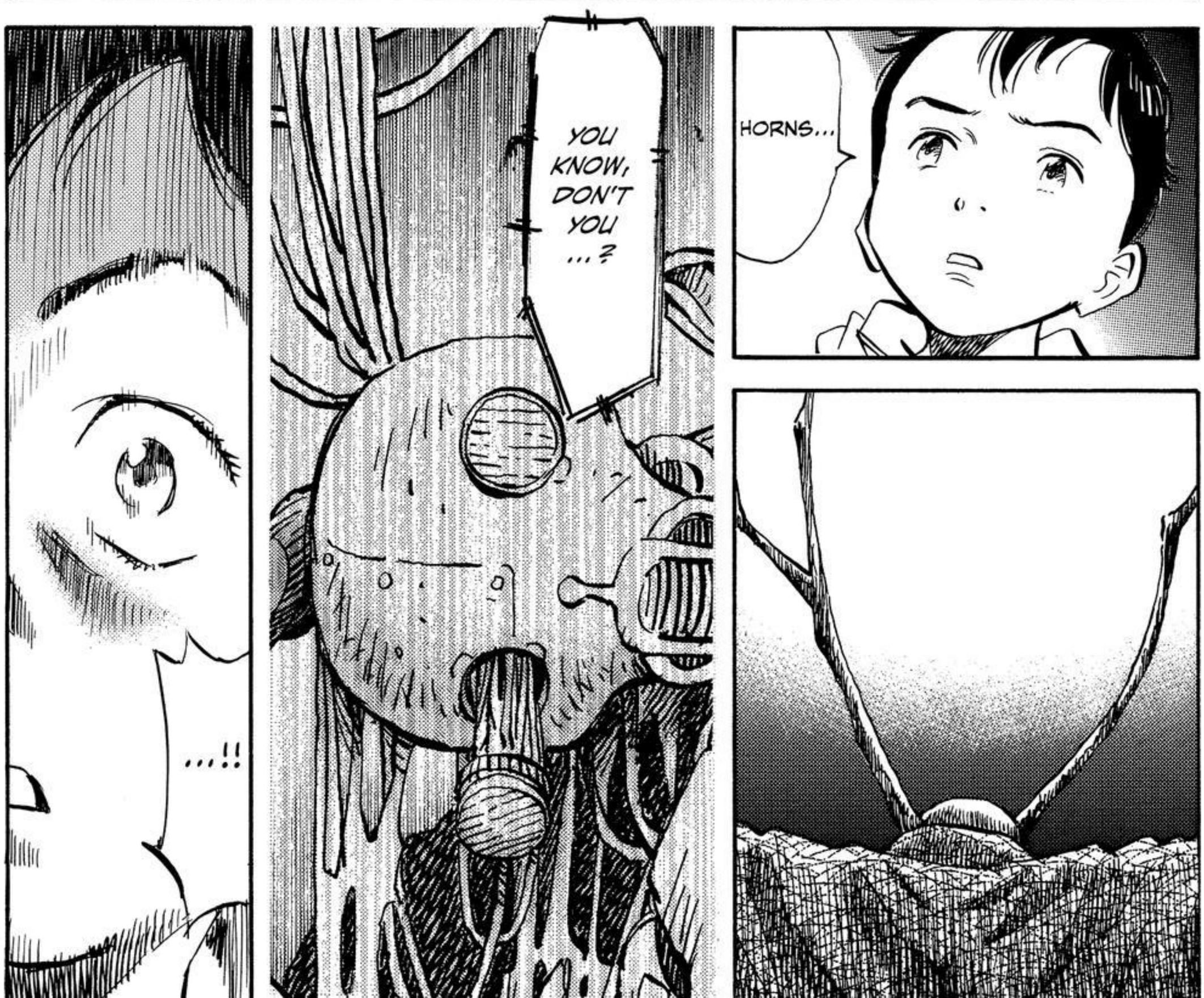

HOW CAN YOU EXPLAIN *THAT*?!
SEE?! IT WAS A *TORNADO*!! SOME UNNATURAL THING THAT HIT LOCALLY AND ONLY TOOK OUT ONE HOUSE...


AW, C'MON, JUST SHOW HIM! HE'S NO KID. HE'S A DAMN *ROBOT*.
UH, RIGHT... BRING IT UP, GUYS...


...BUT WOULD YOU MIND SHOWING ME THE PHOTOS OF THE BODY?
UM, EXCUSE ME...
SORRY... THOSE AREN'T FOR A CHILD'S EYES...


ZWEET


YESSIR.

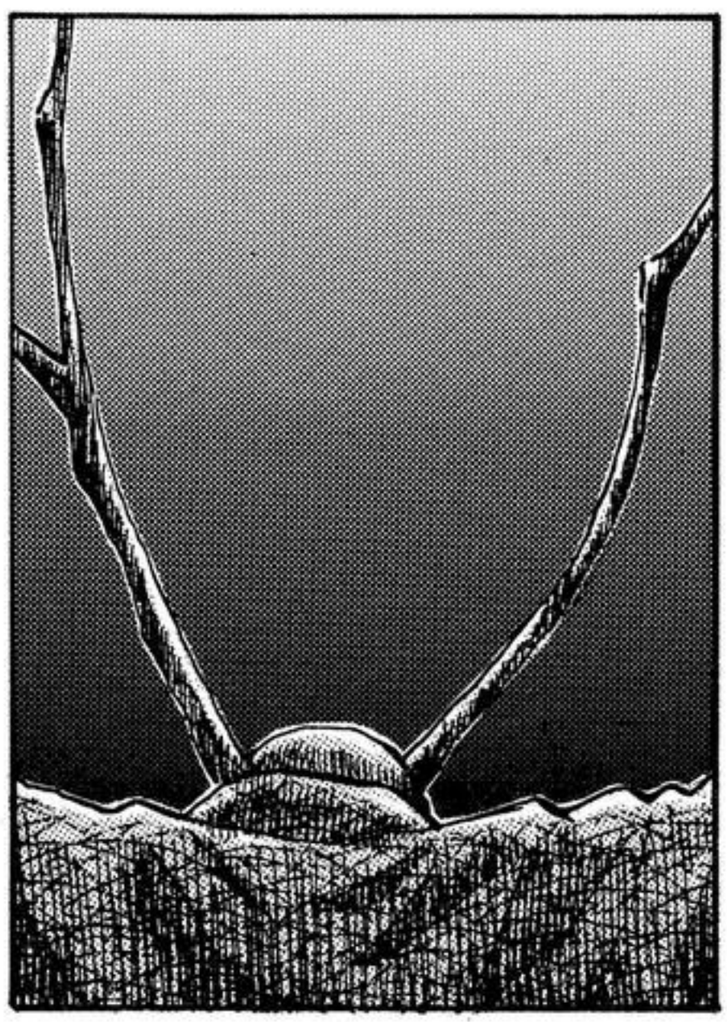

...!!
YOU KNOW, DON'T YOU ...?
HORNS...

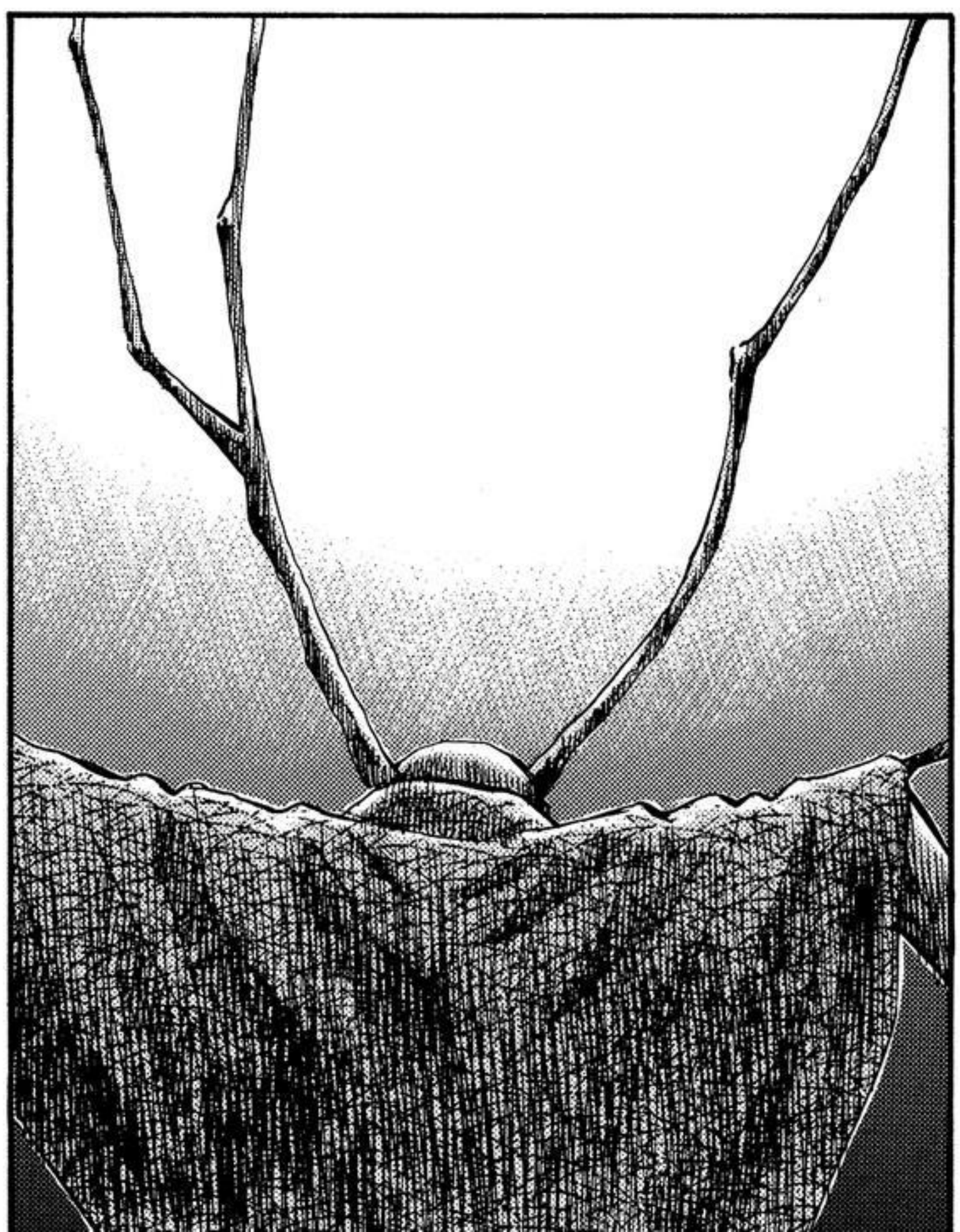
ARGH...

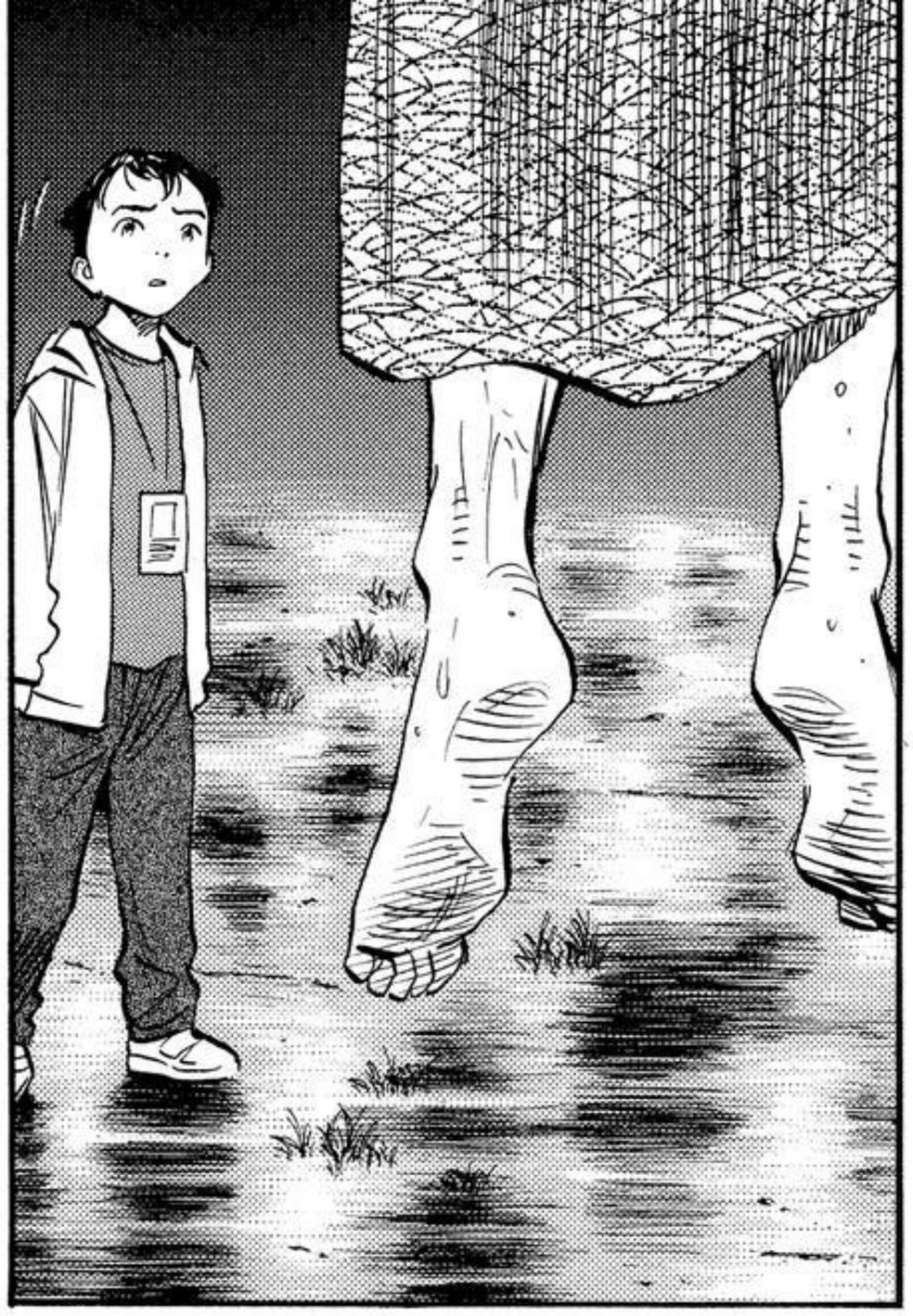
GESICHT'S MEMORIES...

THE GOD OF DEATH WAS DEPICTED WITH HORNS...

...AND IN THE ROMAN MYTHOS...

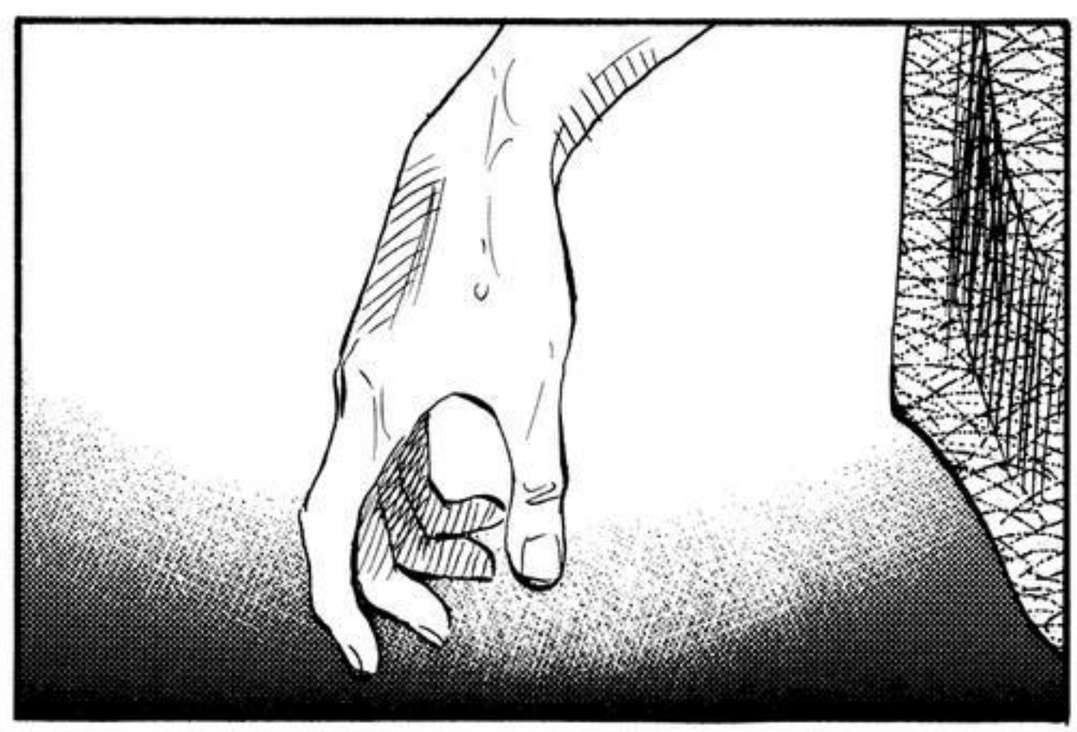






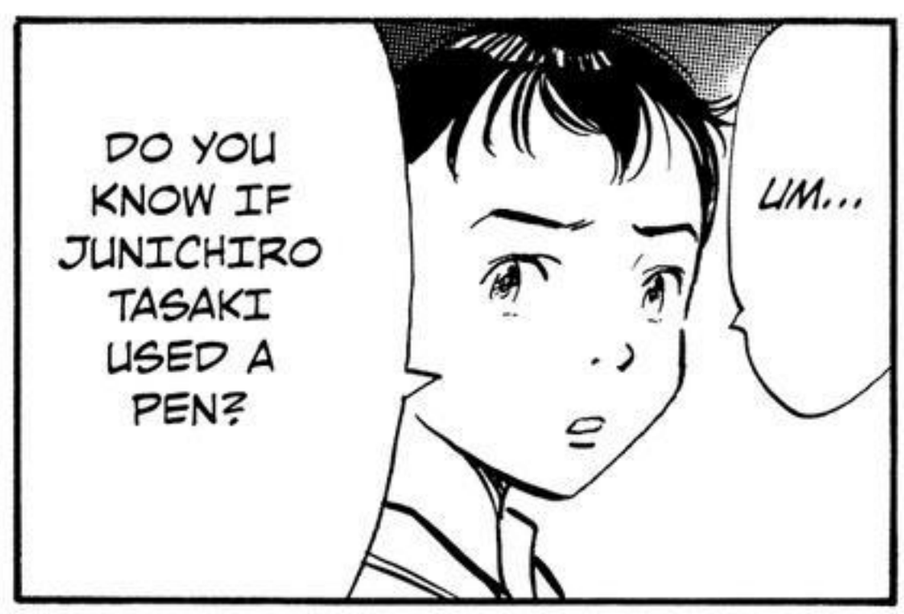
THIS IS TOO MUCH FOR A KID...

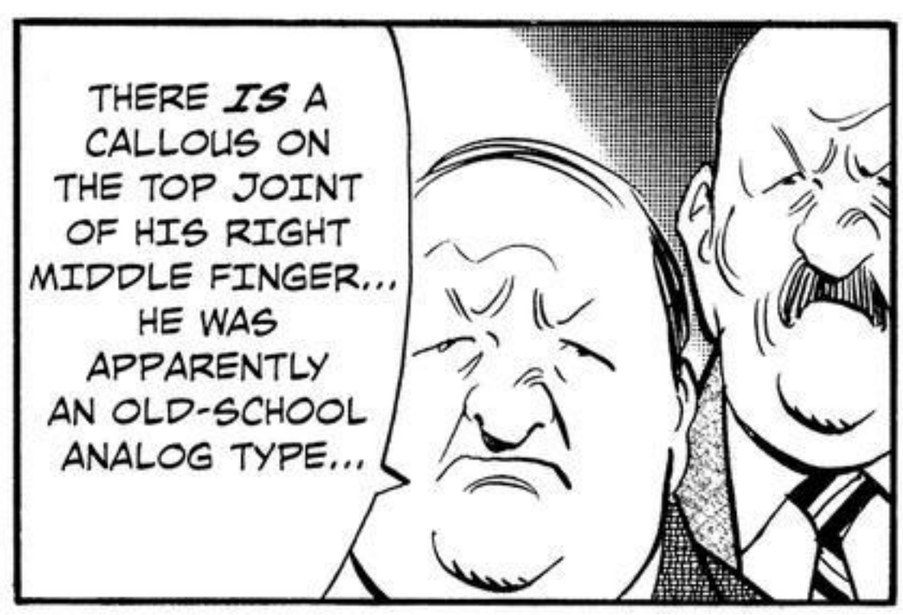
...



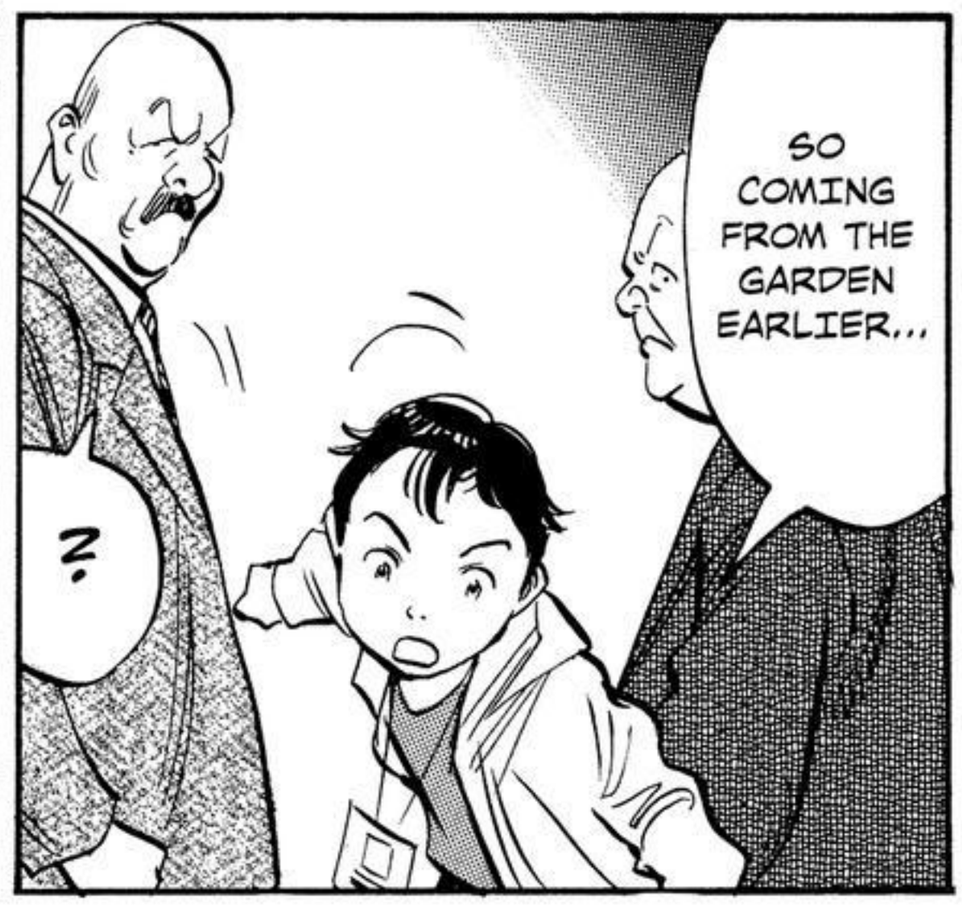
...BUT I CAN SEE FAINT TRACES OF *INK* ON HIS HAND...

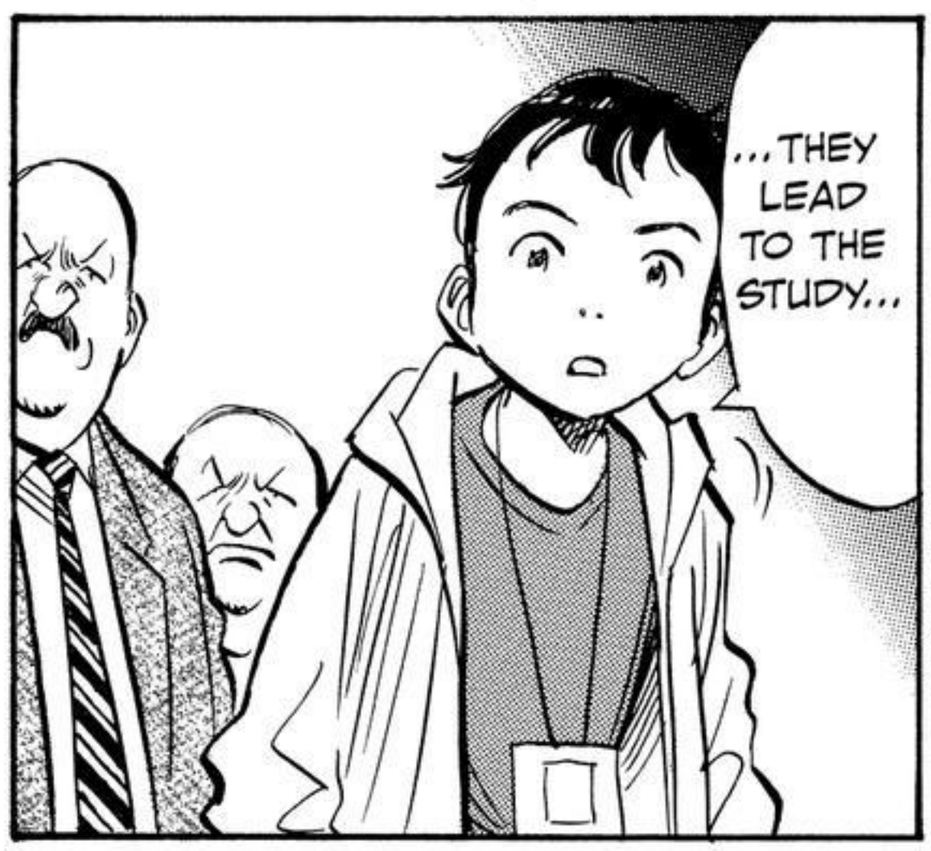
NO, THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE. IT'S BEEN MOSTLY WASHED AWAY BY THE RAIN...


DO YOU KNOW IF JUNICHIRO TASAKI USED A PEN?
UM...

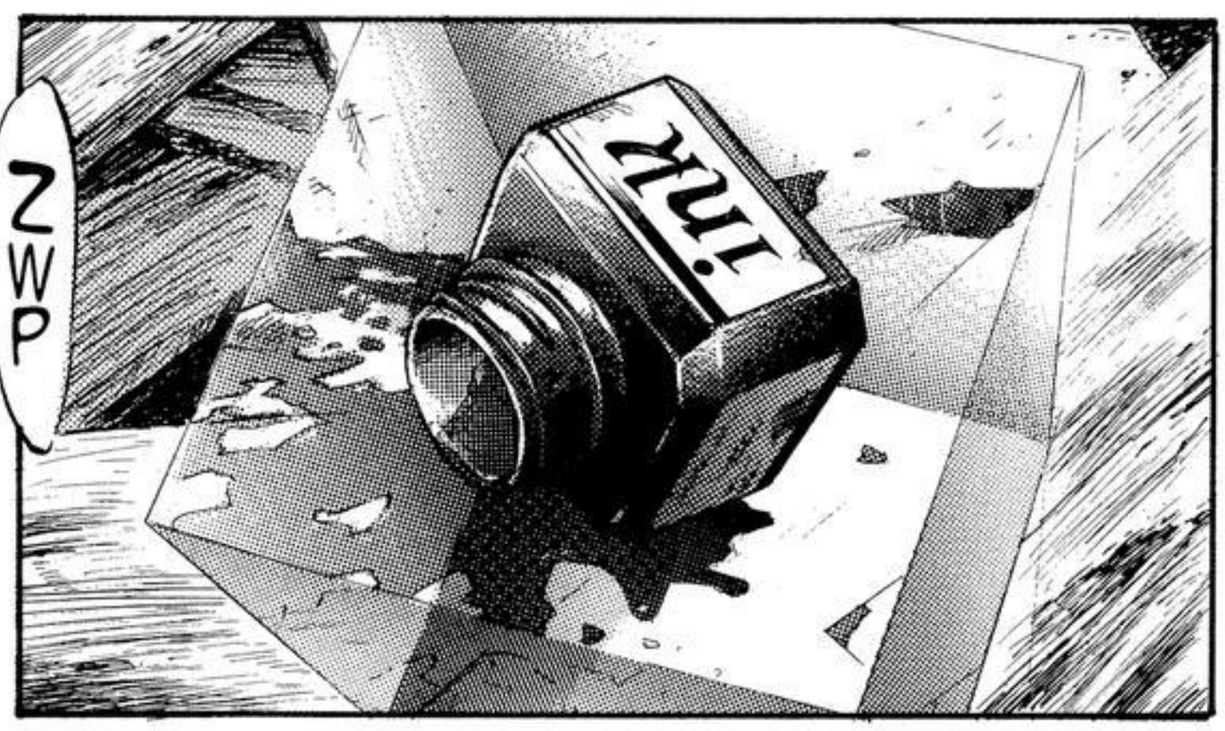

THERE *IS* A CALLOUS ON THE TOP JOINT OF HIS RIGHT MIDDLE FINGER... HE WAS APPARENTLY AN OLD-SCHOOL ANALOG TYPE...

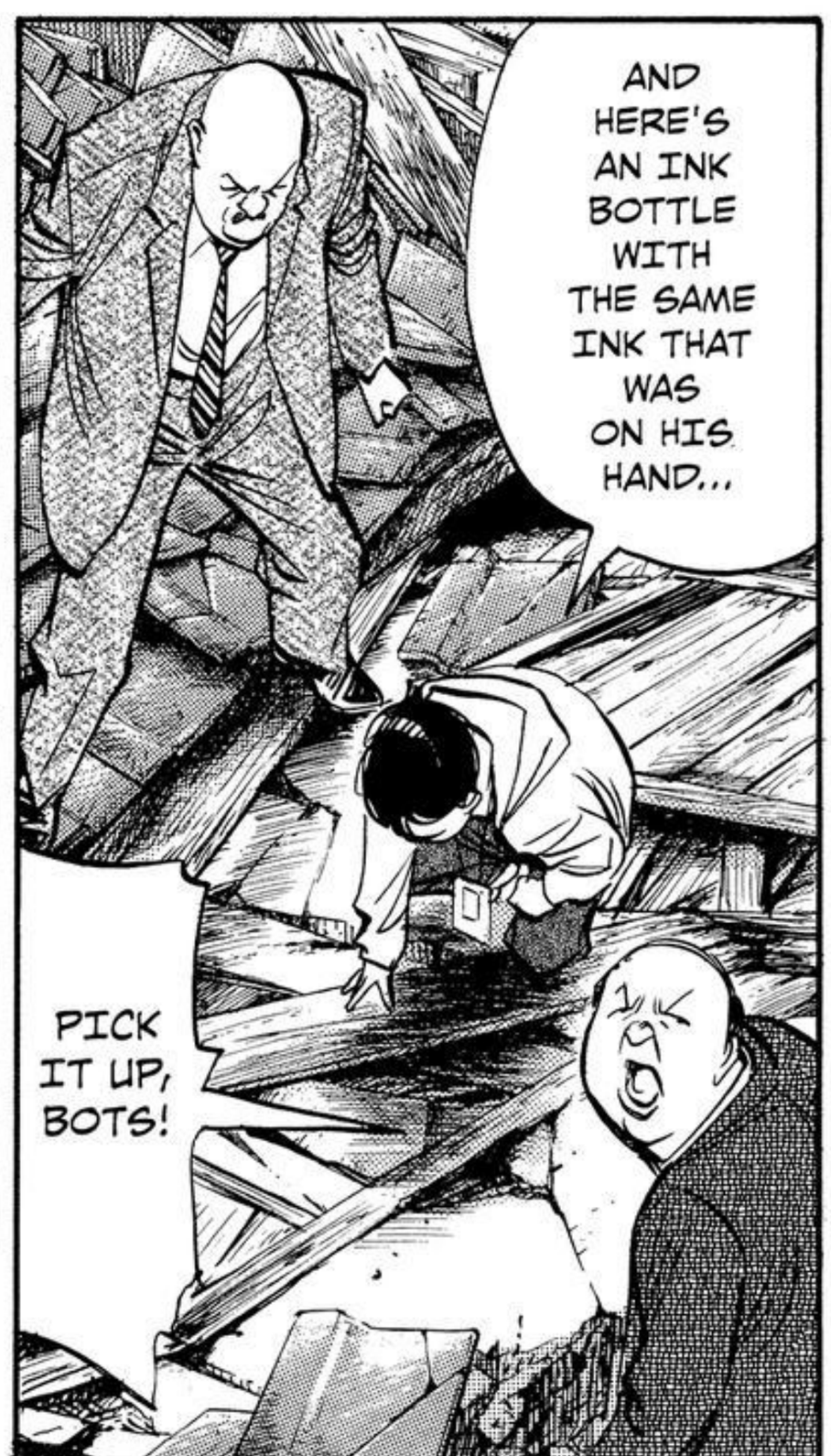
I SEE... THIS IS WHERE HE TRIED TO RUSH BACK INTO THE HOUSE...

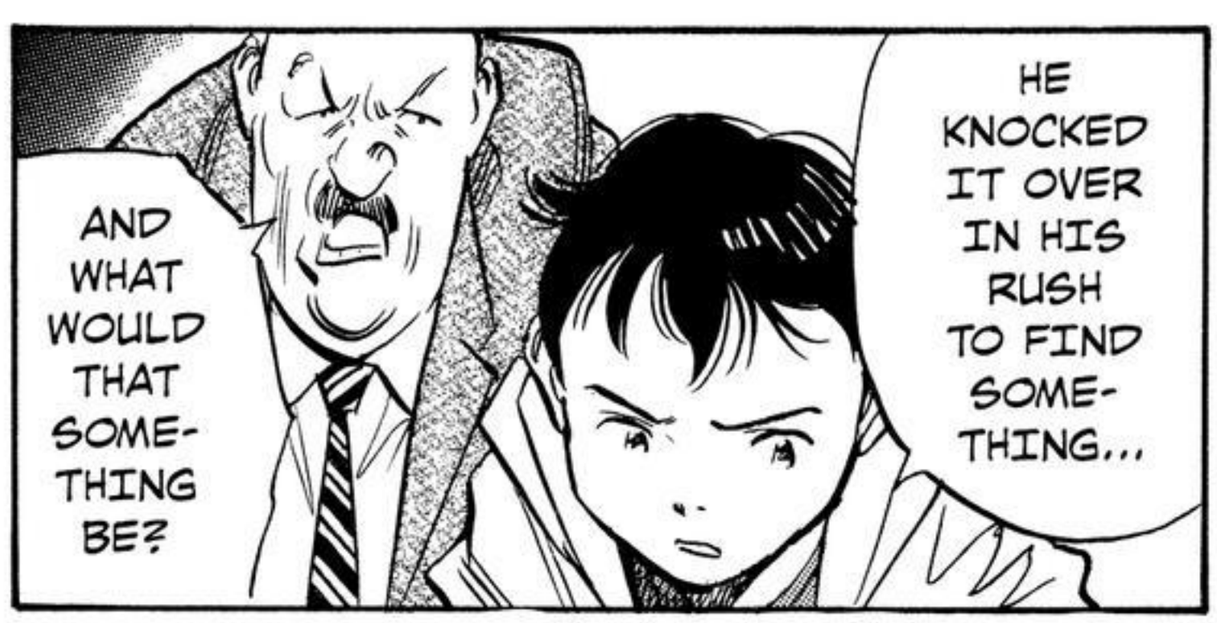

SO COMING FROM THE GARDEN EARLIER...
?

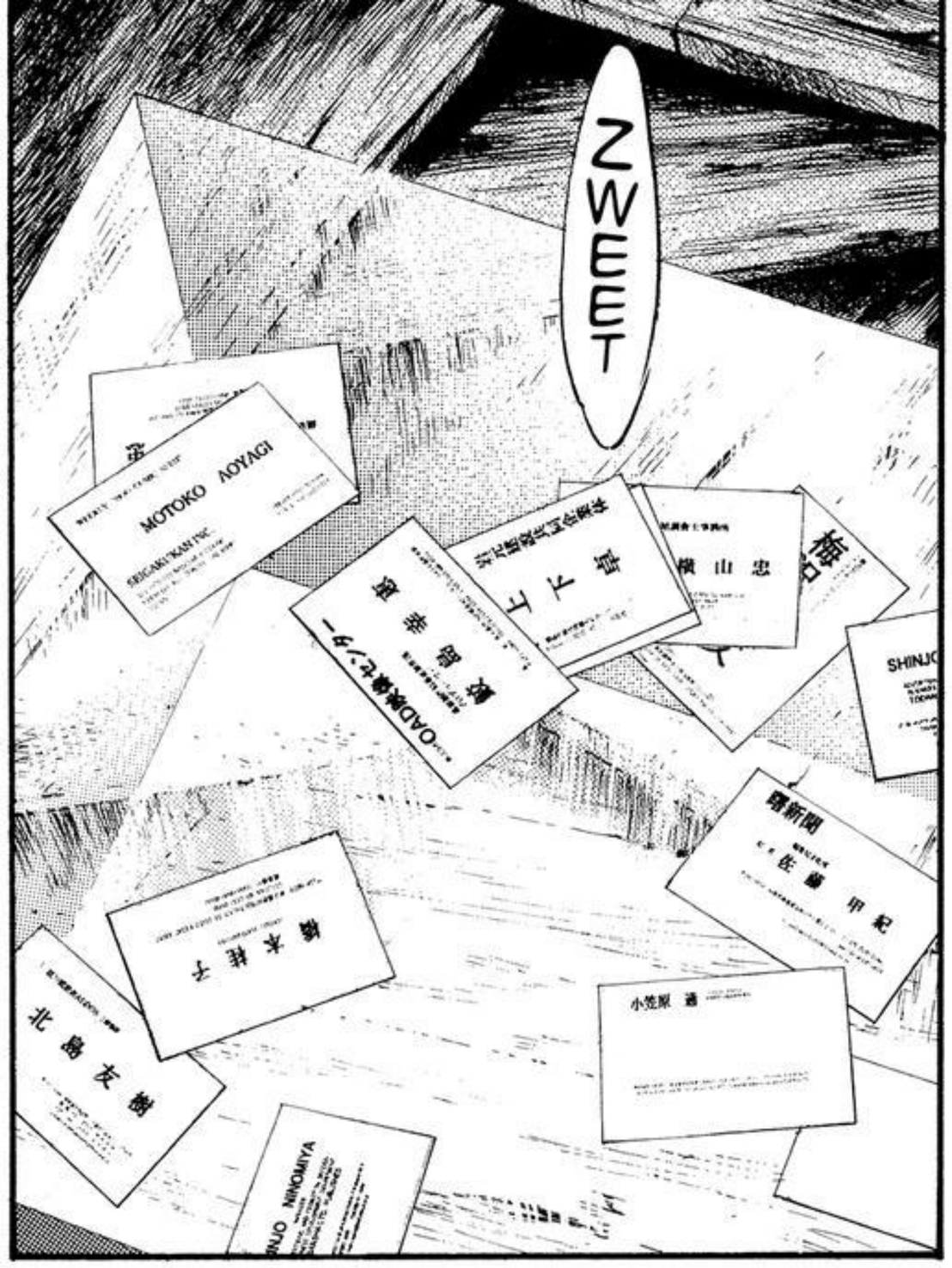

...THEY LEAD TO THE STUDY...

LOOK! YOU CAN STILL SEE WET *FOOTPRINTS* UNDER HERE!


ZWP
INK

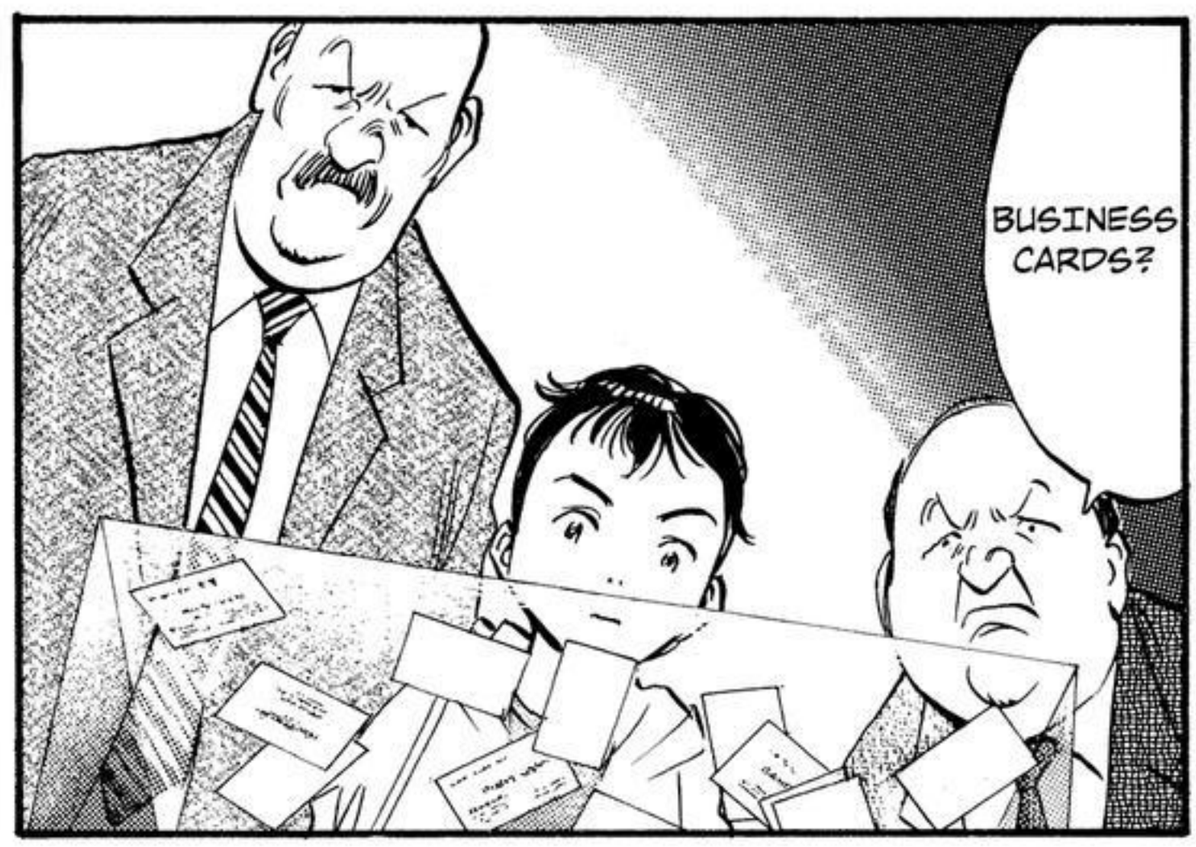

AND HERE'S AN INK BOTTLE WITH THE SAME INK THAT WAS ON HIS HAND...
PICK IT UP, BOTS!


HE KNOCKED IT OVER IN HIS RUSH TO FIND SOME-THING...
AND WHAT WOULD THAT SOME-THING BE?

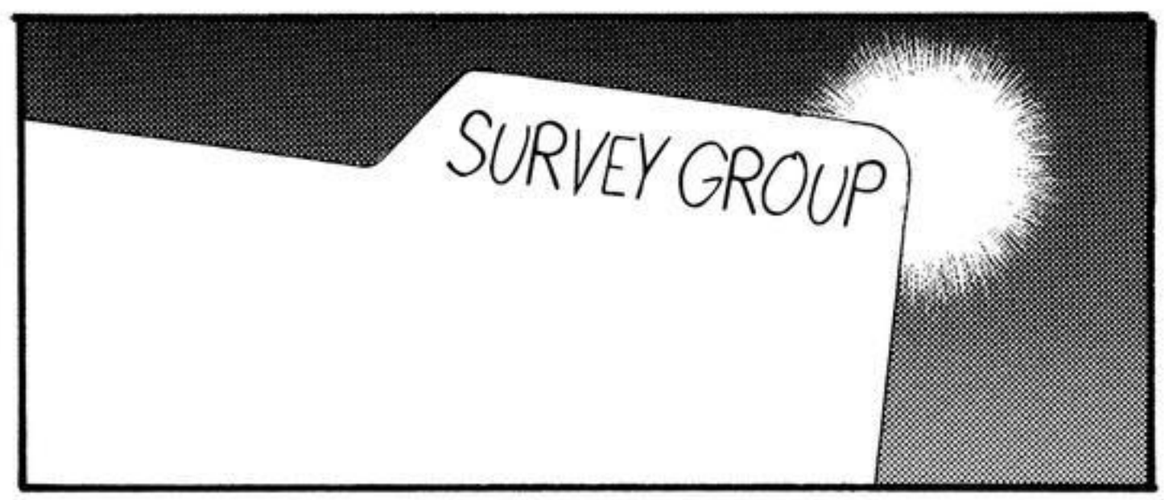

ZWEET
MOTOKO AOYAGI
SHINJO NINOMIYA

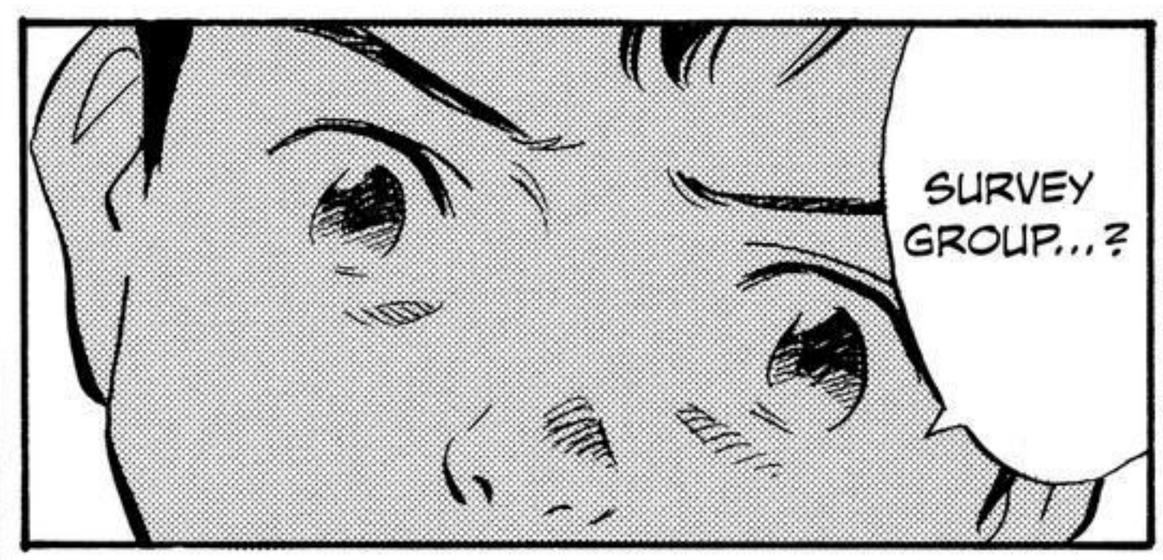
IT'S DOWN HERE! CAN YOU PICK IT UP, PLEASE?!

佐藤
甲紀
SURVEY GROUP


BUSINESS CARDS?

I'LL BE DAMNED. HERE IT IS...


SURVEY GROUP


SURVEY GROUP...?

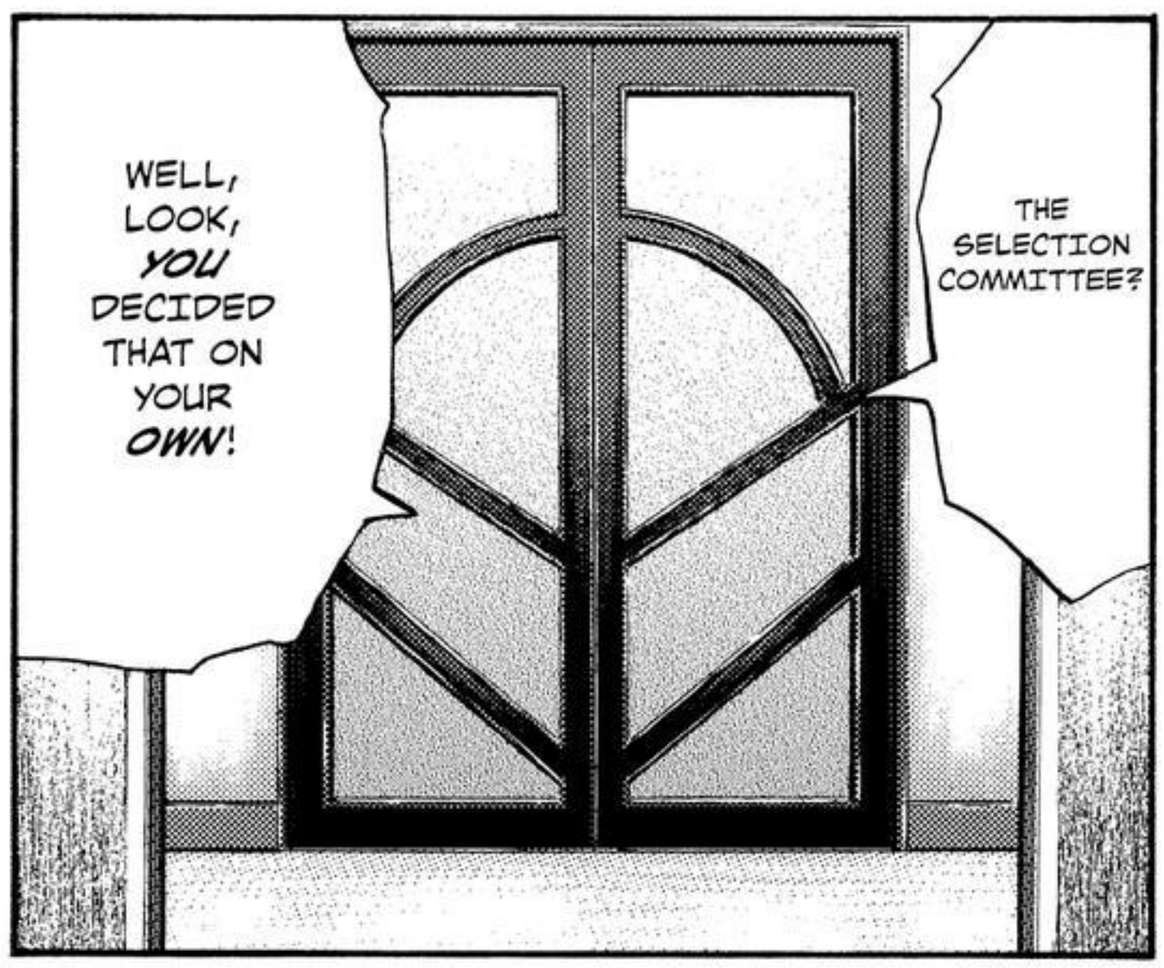
AN INK-STAINED *FINGER-PRINT* ON A BUSINESS CARD...

WHAT'S THE NAME ON THE CARD?

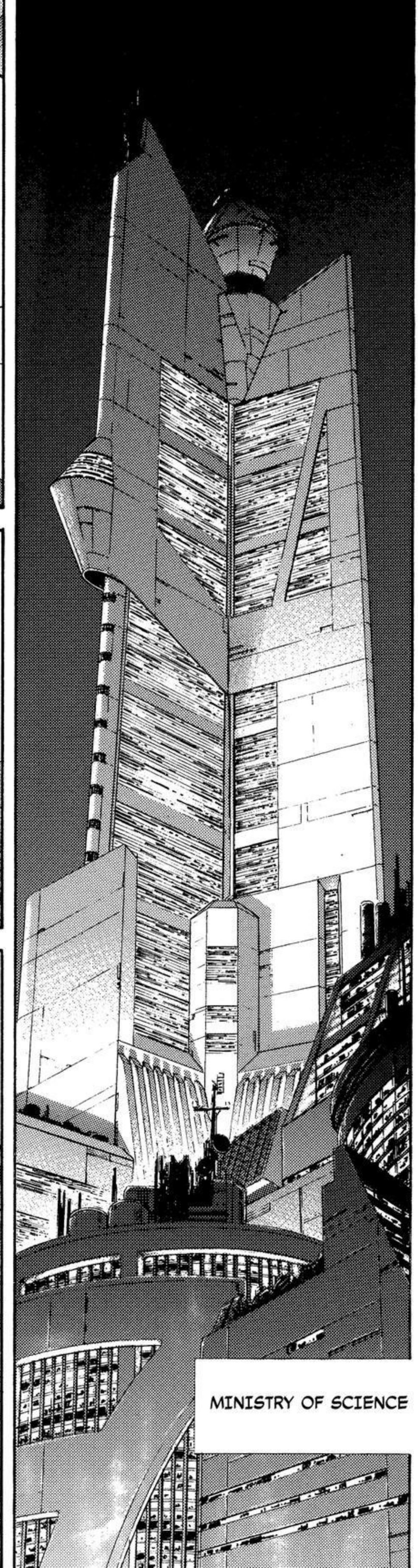
AAR

RO

I'M TELLING YOU I'M TOO BUSY!

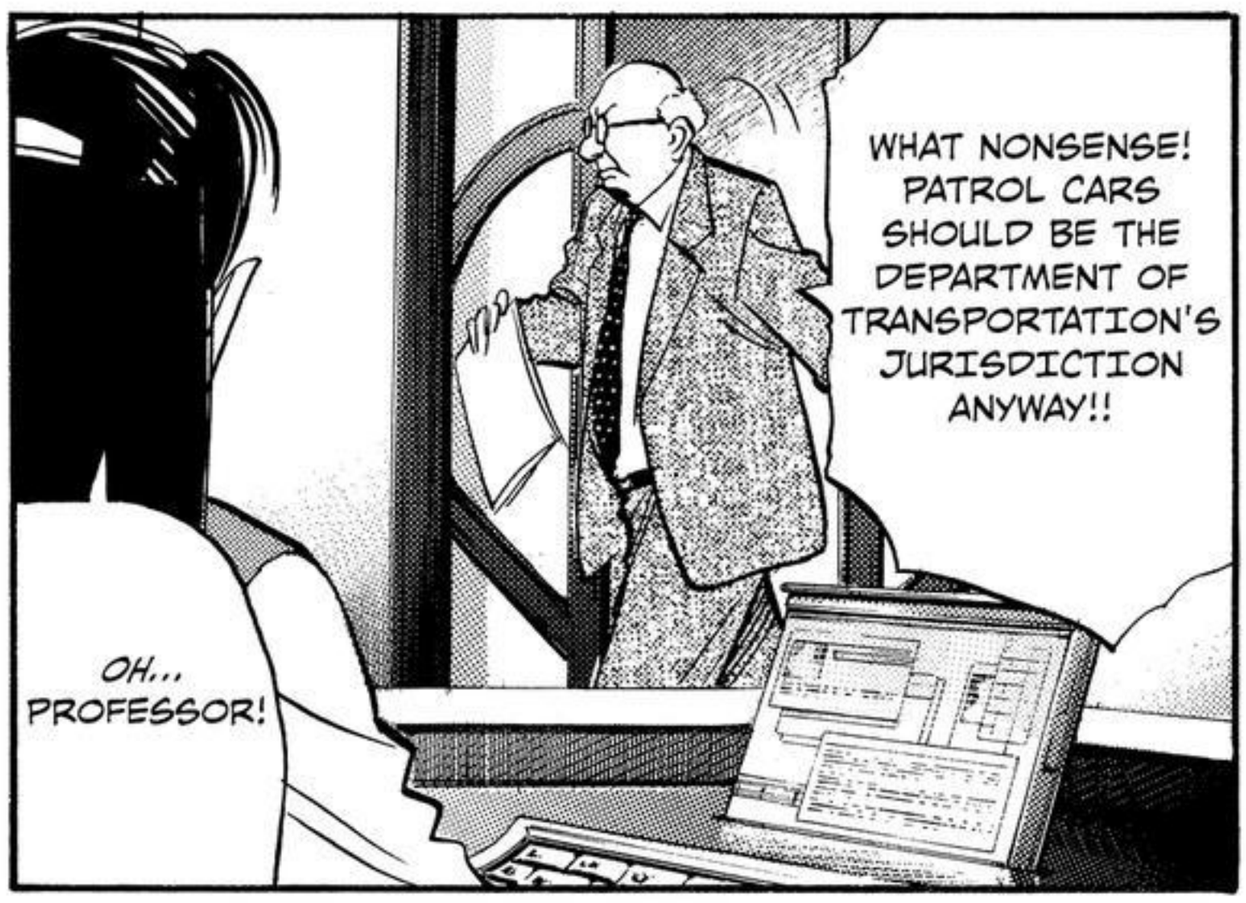

WELL, LOOK, *YOU* DECIDED THAT ON YOUR *OWN*!
THE SELECTION COMMITTEE?

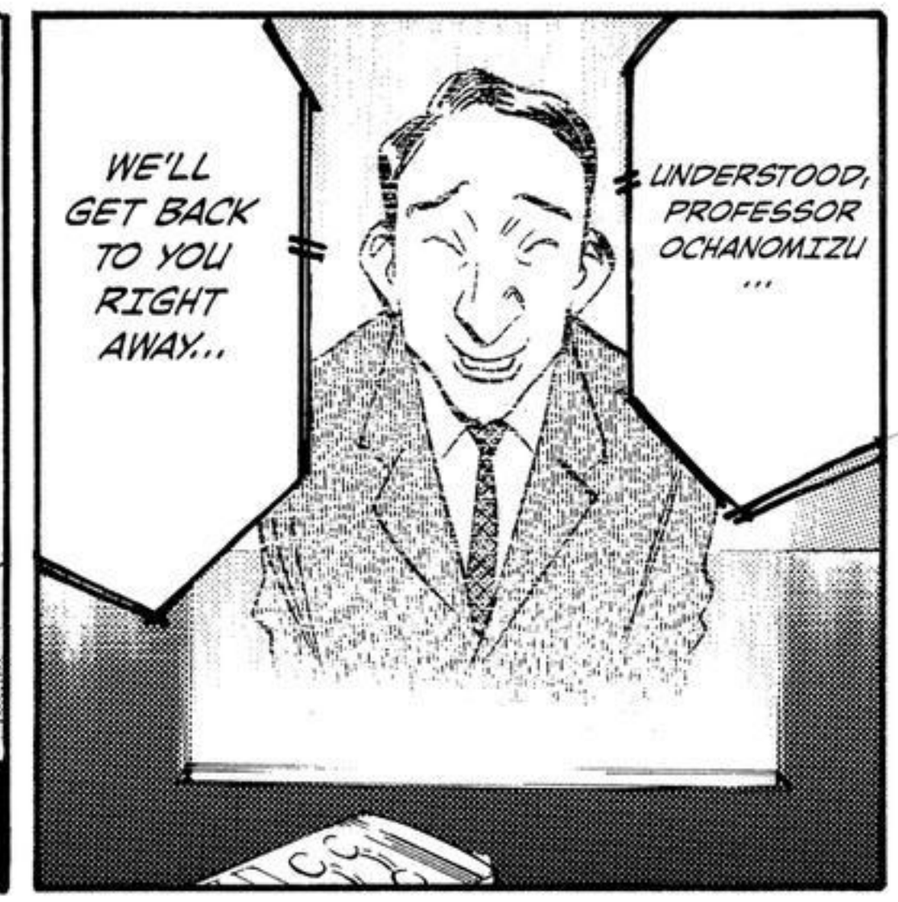
I'M TIED UP HERE TRYING TO GET THE TR-2 BACK ON LINE!

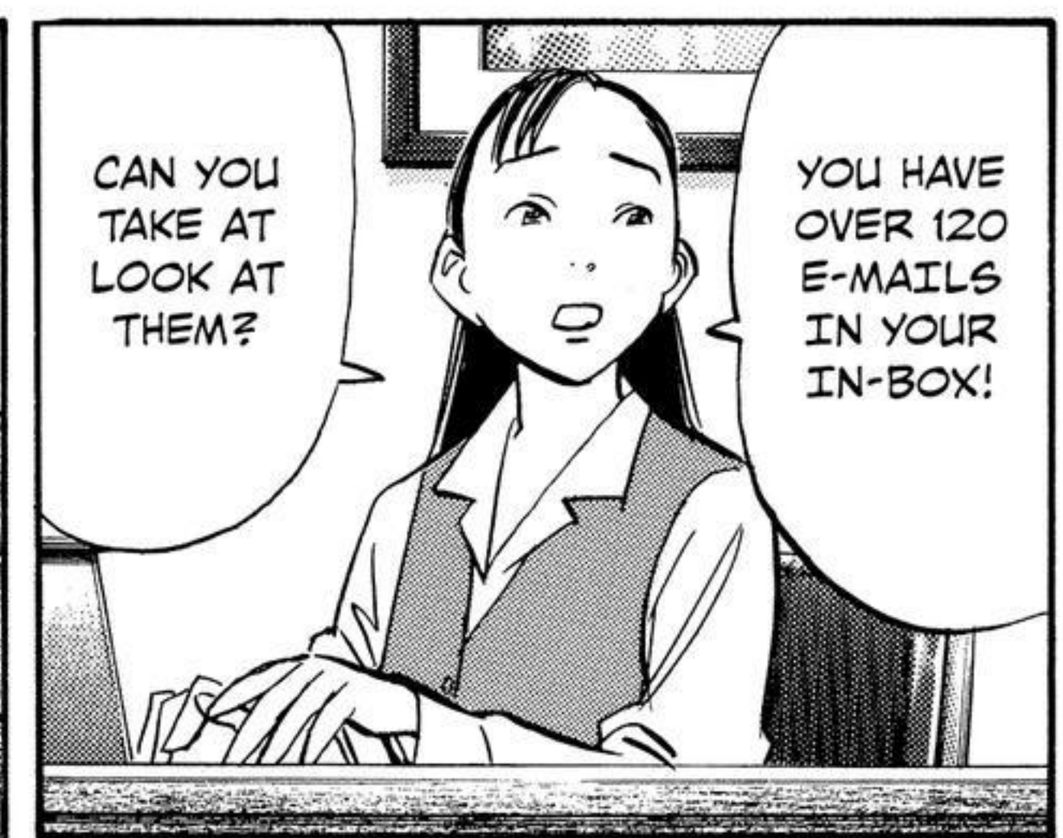

MINISTRY OF SCIENCE

THIS DOG DESIGN IS *FINE*. LET'S GO WITH THAT!

WHO *CARES* WHAT KIND OF DESIGN WE GIVE THE PATROL CARS!!







PROFESSOR OCHANOMIZU ...

IF IT'S ABOUT THE PATROL CAR, TELL HIM WE'RE GOING WITH THE DOG DESIGN.

BUT, SIR, THERE'S A MESSAGE FROM SUPERINTENDENT TAWASHI... HE SAYS IT'S *URGENT*...

YOU COULD BE A TARGET. IT'S NOT A GOOD IDEA TO BE OUT SO LATE!

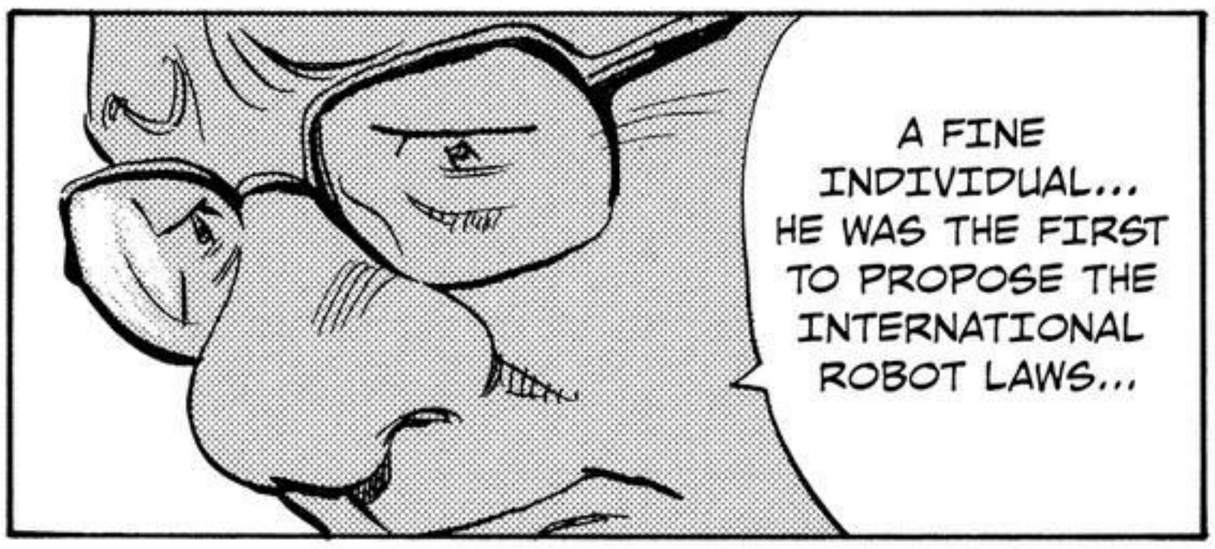
YOU KNOW THERE'VE BEEN SEVERAL ATTACKS ON ADVANCED ROBOTS RECENTLY...

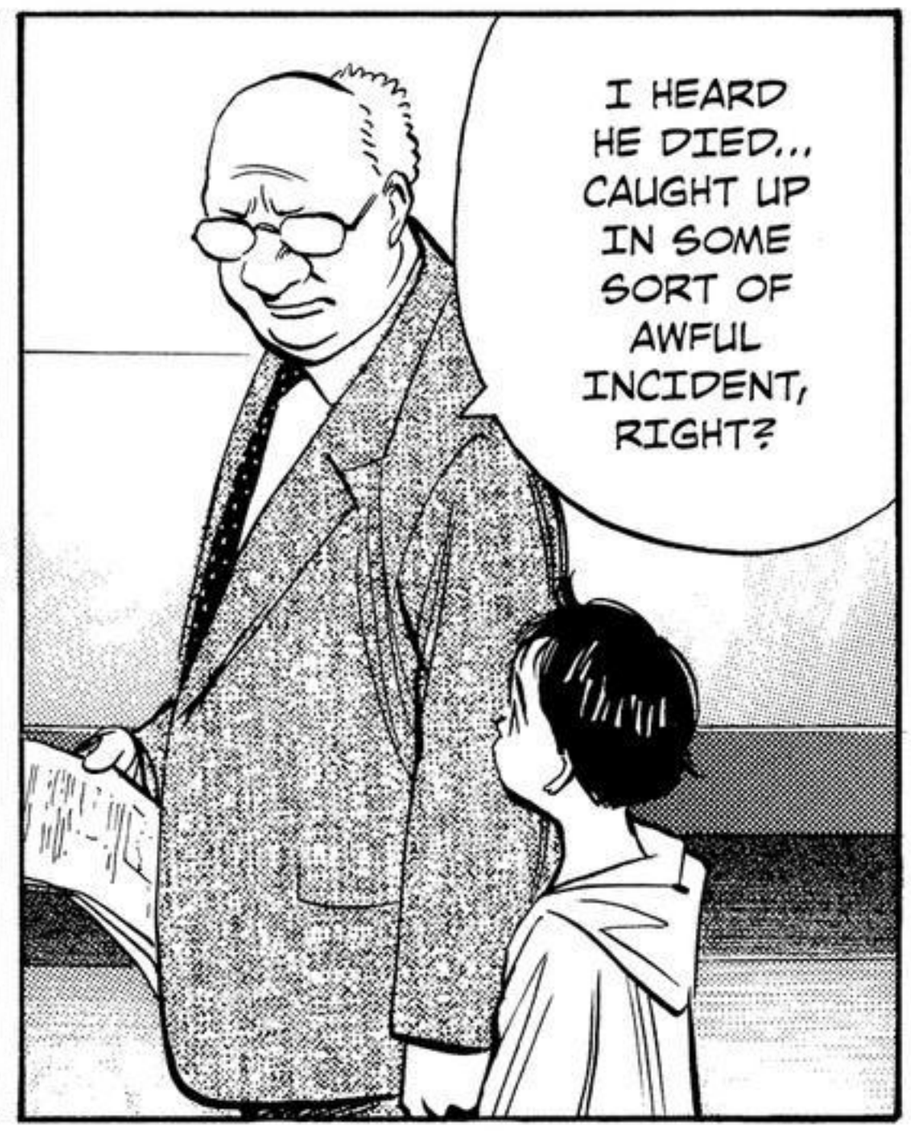
ATOM... WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE AT THIS HOUR?

OH... HIM...

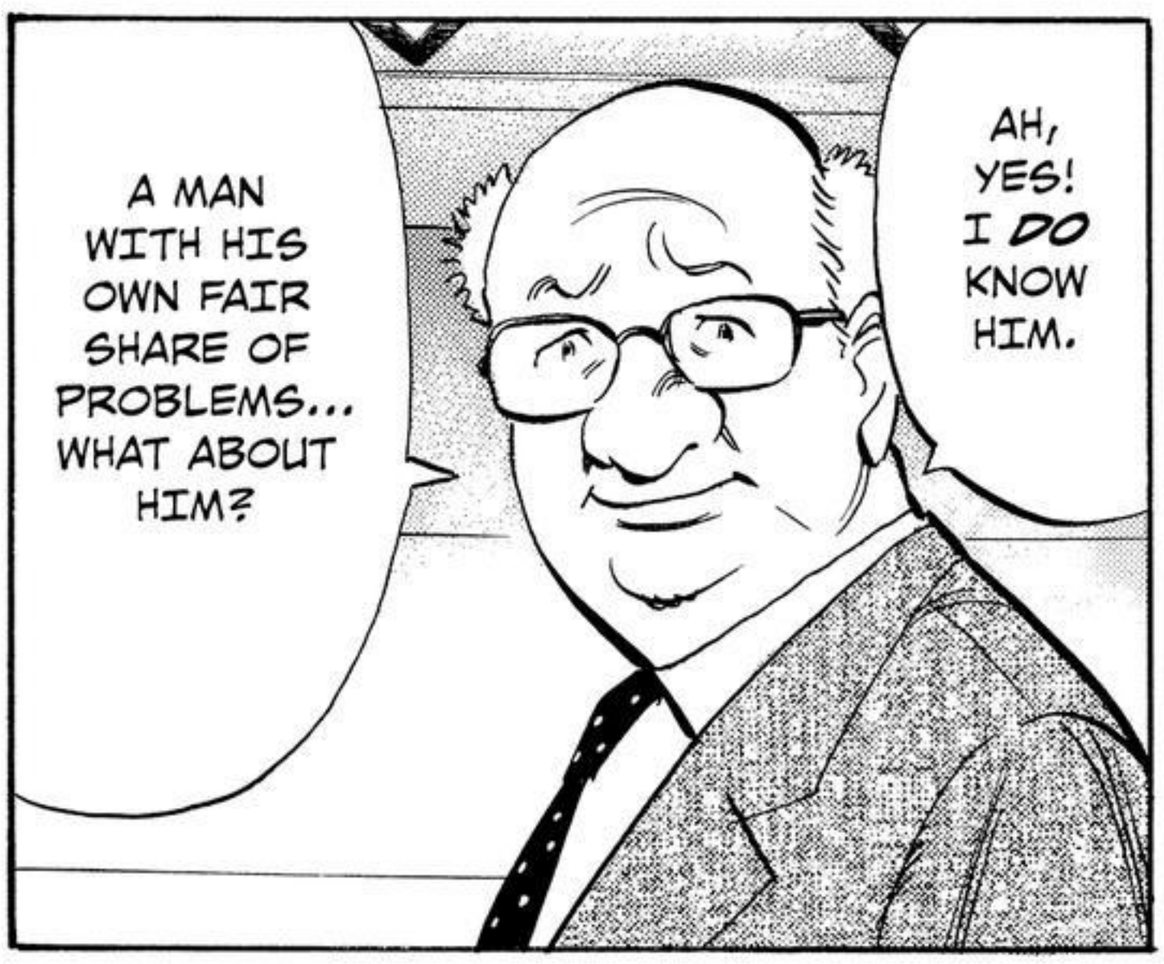
HAVE YOU HEARD OF A LEGAL EXPERT NAMED *JUNICHIRO TASAKI*?

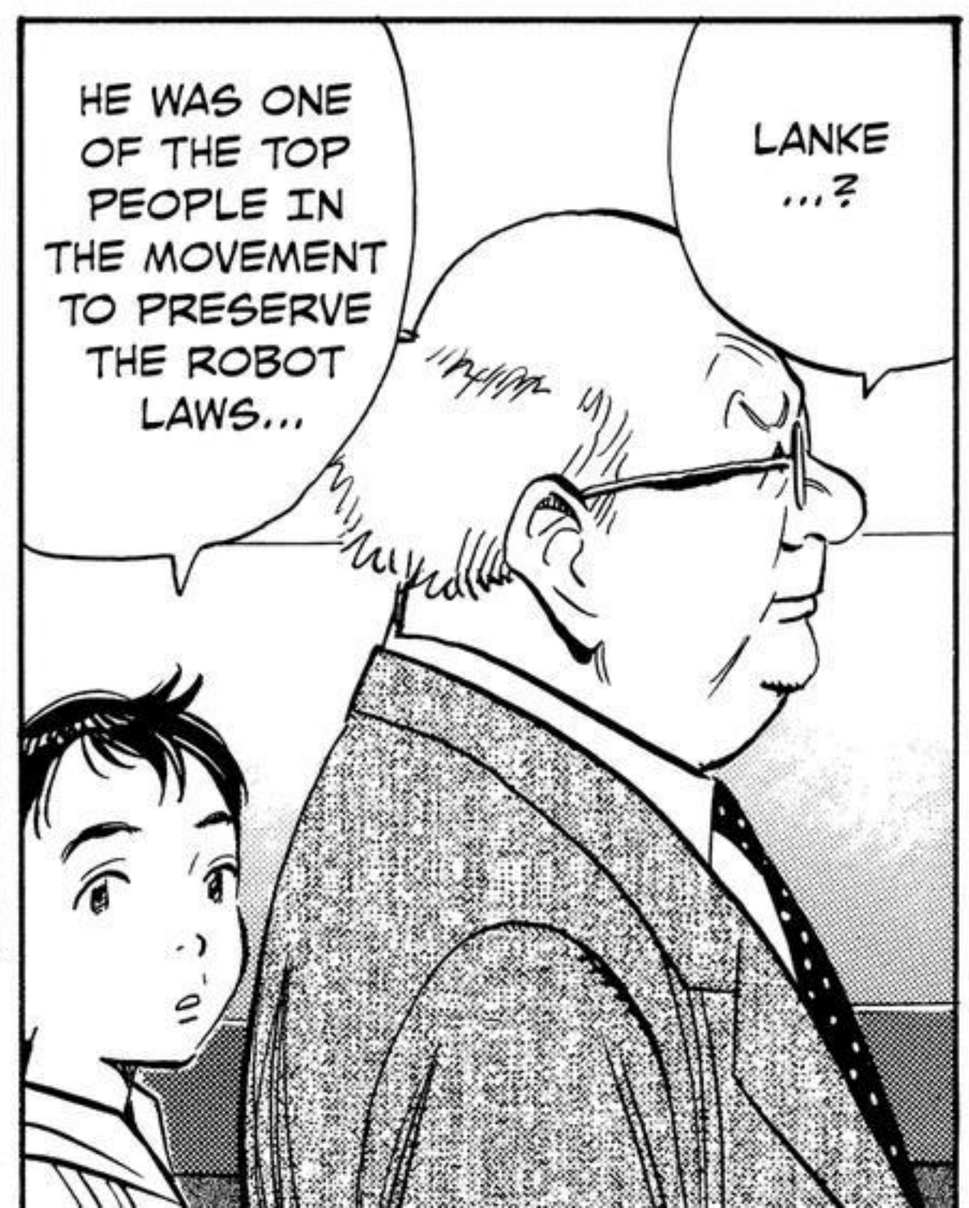
YES ...?
PROFESSOR ...


A FINE INDIVIDUAL... HE WAS THE FIRST TO PROPOSE THE INTERNATIONAL ROBOT LAWS...


I HEARD HE DIED... CAUGHT UP IN SOME SORT OF AWFUL INCIDENT, RIGHT?

HOW ABOUT *BERNARD LANKE*?


A MAN WITH HIS OWN FAIR SHARE OF PROBLEMS... WHAT ABOUT HIM?
AH, YES! I *DO* KNOW HIM.


HE WAS ONE OF THE TOP PEOPLE IN THE MOVEMENT TO PRESERVE THE ROBOT LAWS...
LANKE ...?

WHERE'D YOU MEET MR. LANKE, PROFESSOR?

WELL...

WELL, HE'S DEAD TOO...

OH... I'M SORRY TO HEAR THAT...

THE SURVEY GROUP...

WE WERE PART OF THE SURVEY GROUP.

IT WAS DURING THE 39TH CENTRAL ASIA WAR...

PROFESSOR, IT WAS *YOUR* CARD...

科学省長官
お茶の水 博士

HE WAS TRYING TO CONTACT... *ME*?

Dr. OCHANOMIZU

JUST BEFORE JUNICHIRO TASAKI WAS KILLED, HE WAS LOOKING FOR SOMEONE'S BUSINESS CARD...

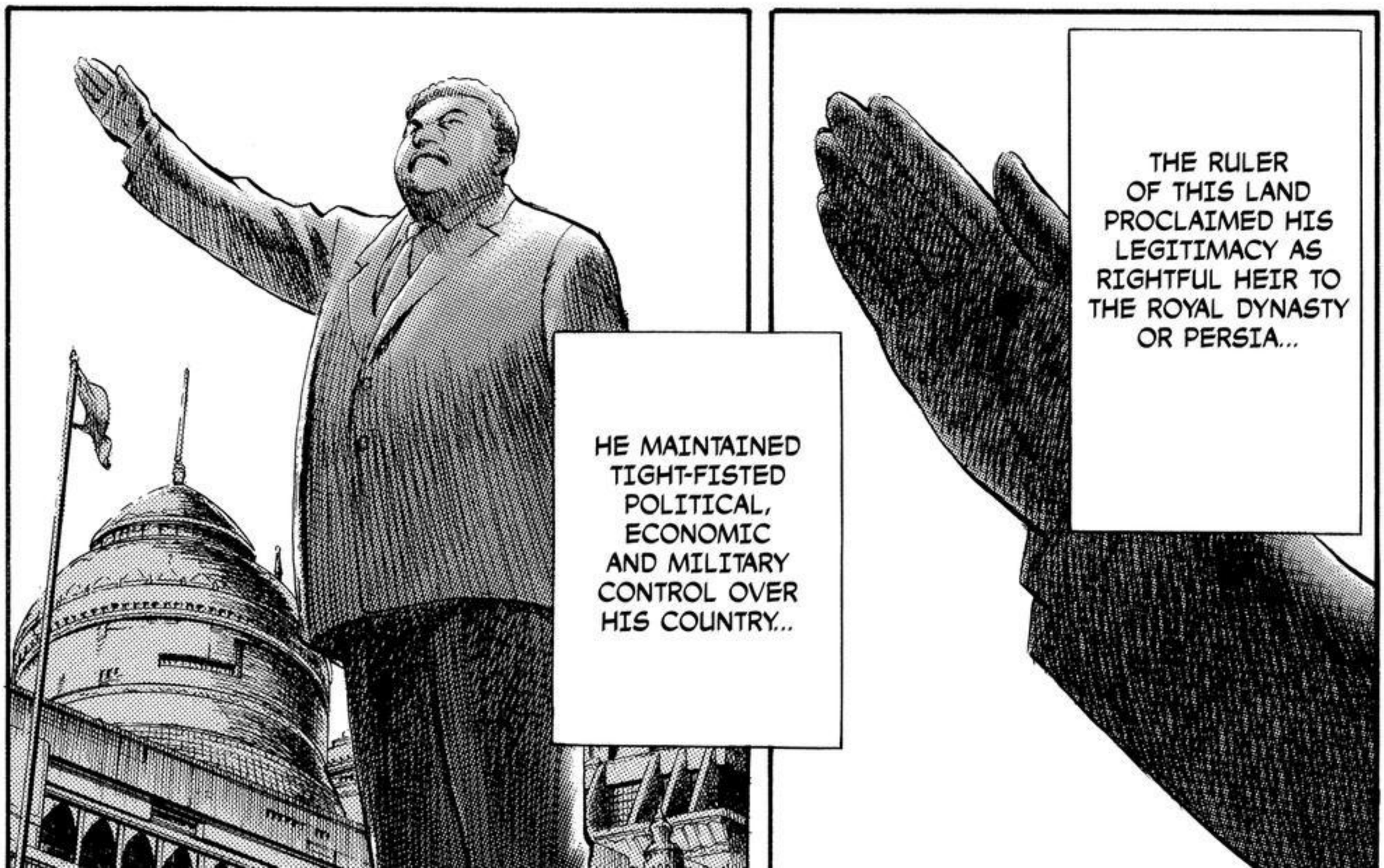
SOMEONE WANTS TO KILL YOU...

AND THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE BORA SURVEY GROUP ARE IN DANGER TOO...

Act 10 HERCULES

ITS CITIZENS LIVED UNDER AN OPPRESSIVE DICTATORSHIP...

ROBOTS TOO, SUFFERED UNDER POLICIES THAT IGNORED THEIR RIGHTS GRANTED UNDER A UNITED NATIONS TREATY.



KING DARIUS XIV...
HU-UR-R-R-RAH
HE USED OVERWHELMING MILITARY MIGHT TO INVADE HIS NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES...
FSHOW

IT WAS A MOVE TO GAIN CONTROL OF THE WHOLE OF CENTRAL ASIA.

...TO EXPRESS HIS GREAT CONCERN OVER THE SIZE OF THE PERSIAN ROBOT ARMY...

IN RESPONSE, PRESIDENT ALEXANDER OF THE UNITED STATES OF THRACIA TOOK IT UPON HIMSELF TO LEAD THE REST OF THE WORLD...

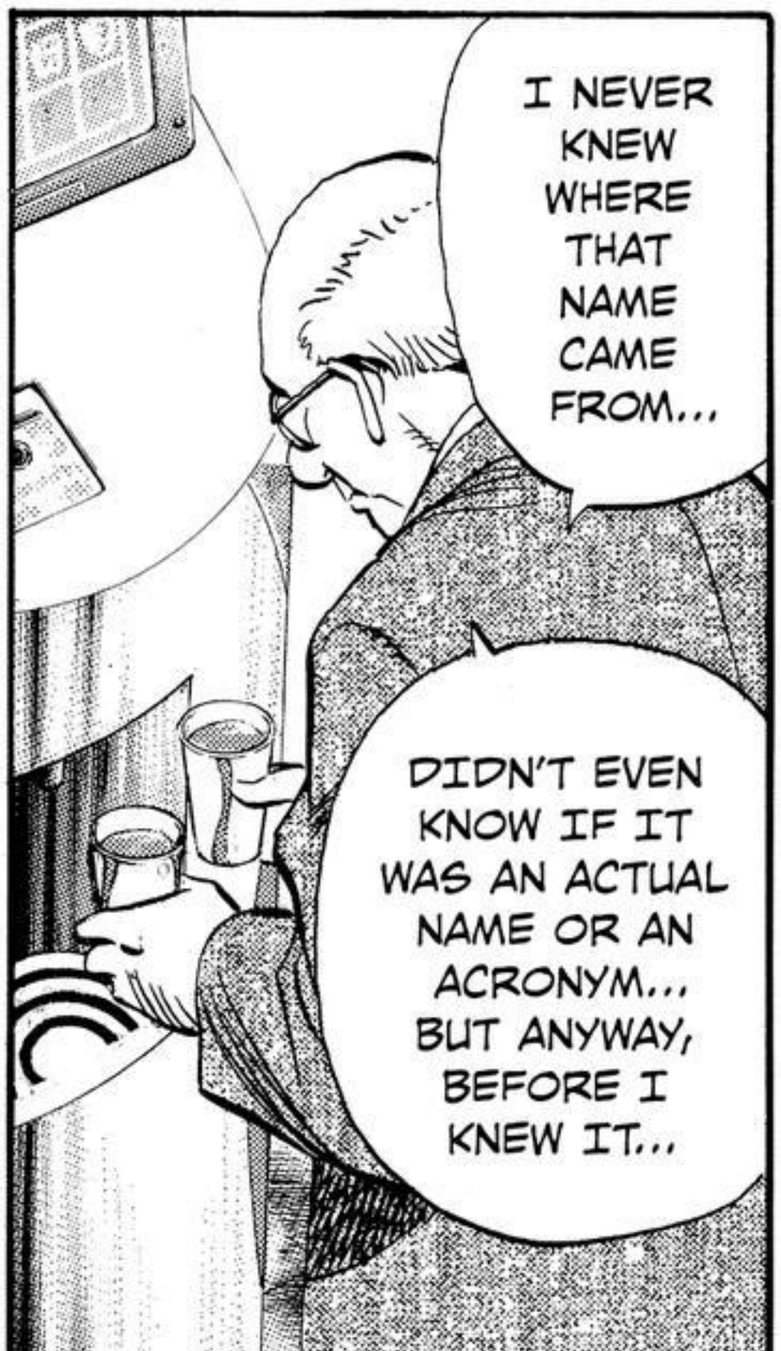
HE CALLED FOR A UNITED NATIONS TREATY BANNING THE MANUFACTURE AND USE OF ROBOTS OF MASS DESTRUCTION.

...ACCUSED THE KINGDOM OF PERSIA OF HIDING ITS ROBOTS OF MASS DESTRUCTION.

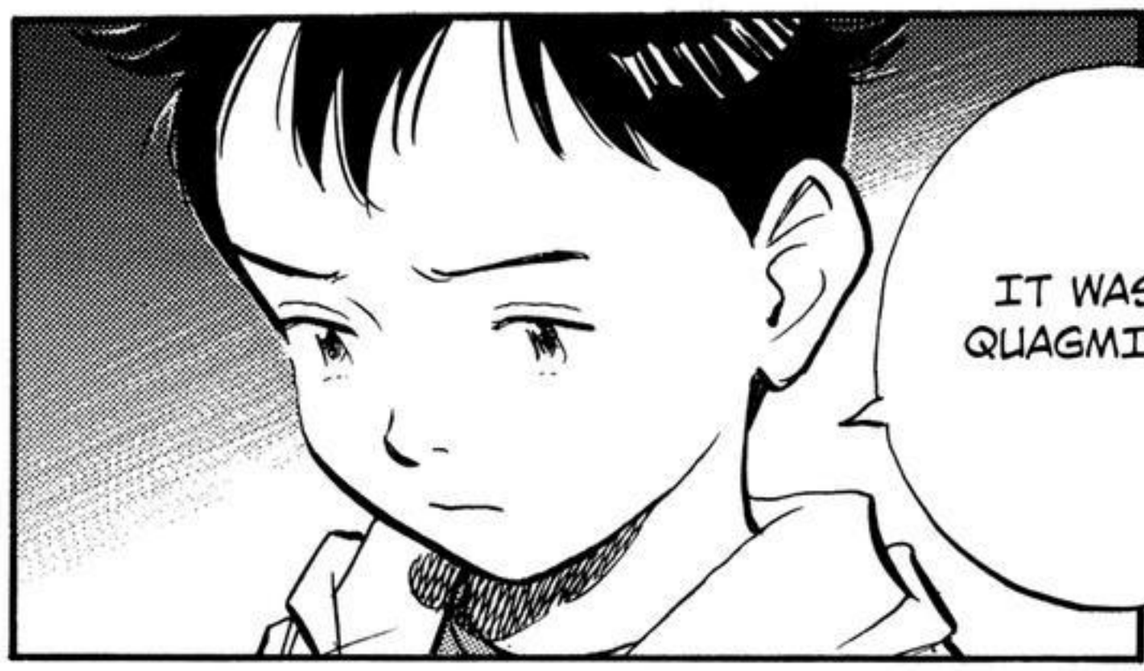
ONCE THE TREATY WAS PASSED, PRESIDENT ALEXANDER...

THAT COMMISSION WAS CALLED THE ***BORA SURVEY GROUP***...

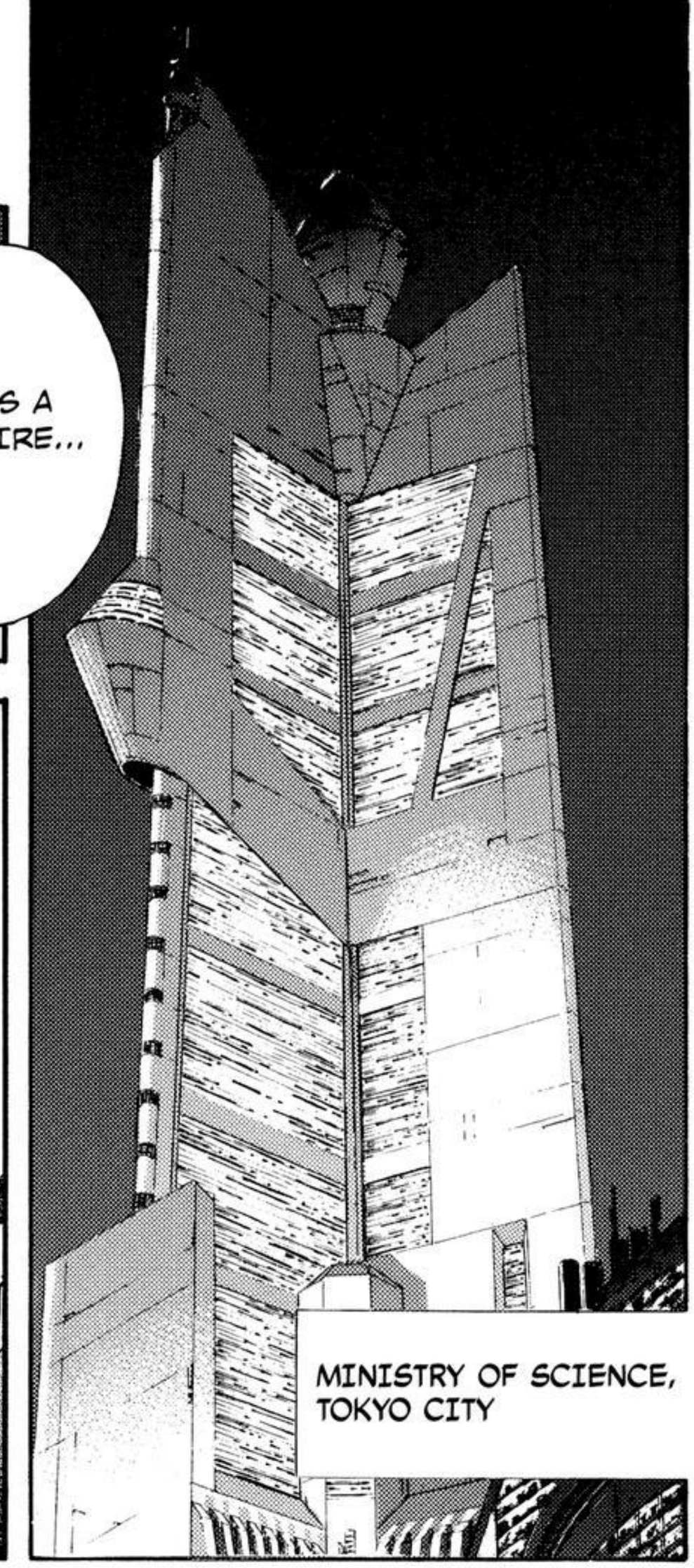
THE U.N. DISPATCHED A GROUP OF INSPECTORS TO THE PERSIAN KINGDOM.



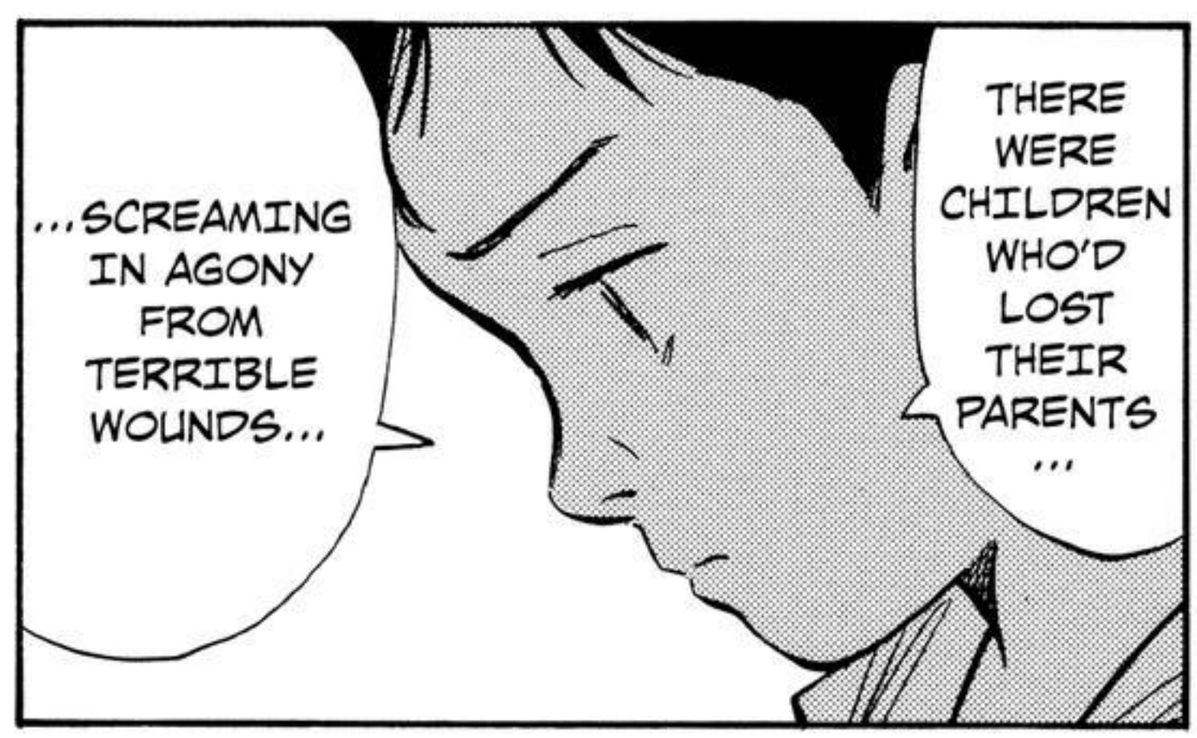
Act 10
HERCULES


IT WAS A QUAGMIRE...

BY THE TIME WE ENTERED AS PART OF THE PEACE-KEEPING FORCES, THE COUNTRY WAS ALREADY IN ASHES...

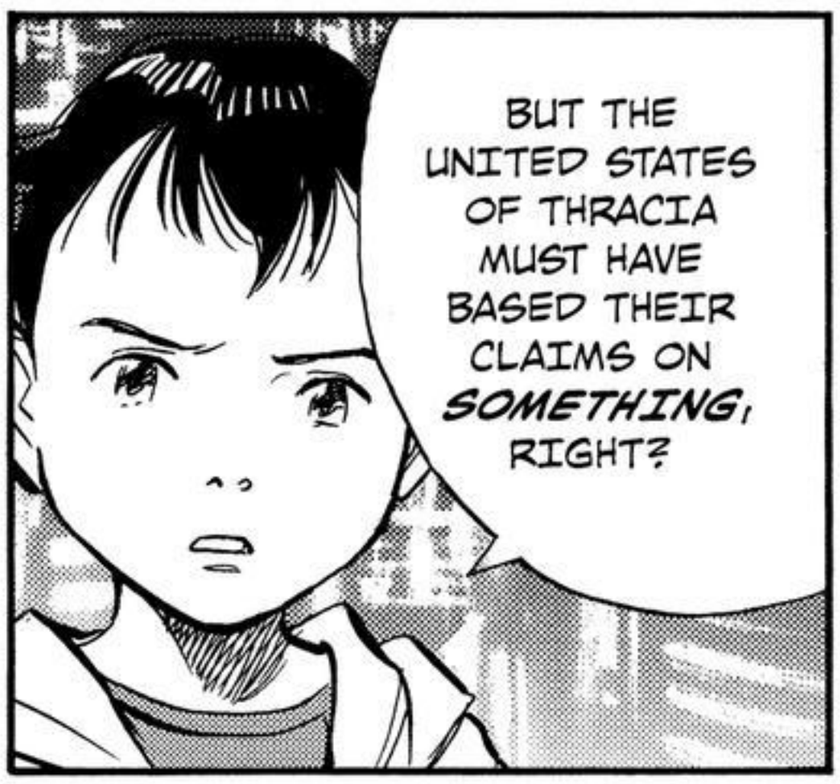

MINISTRY OF SCIENCE, TOKYO CITY

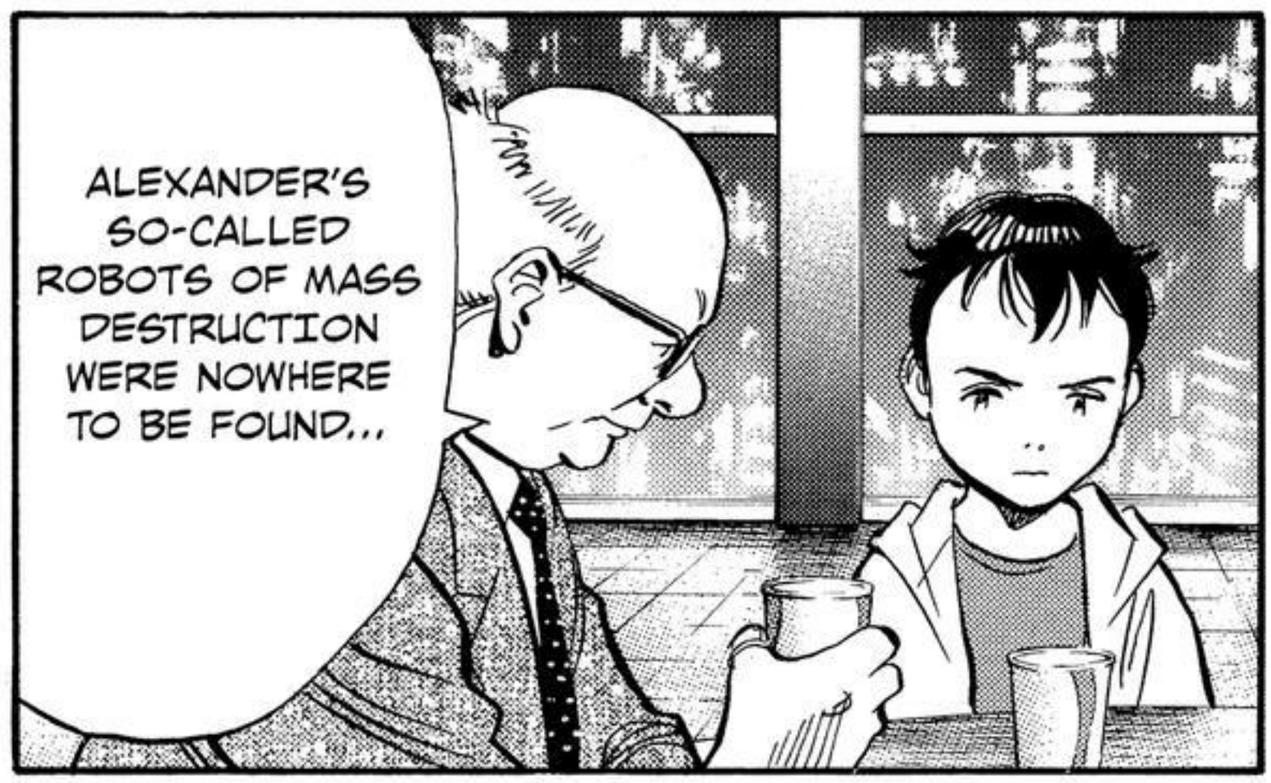
SURE, WHAT?
CAN I ASK A QUESTION, PROFESSOR ...?

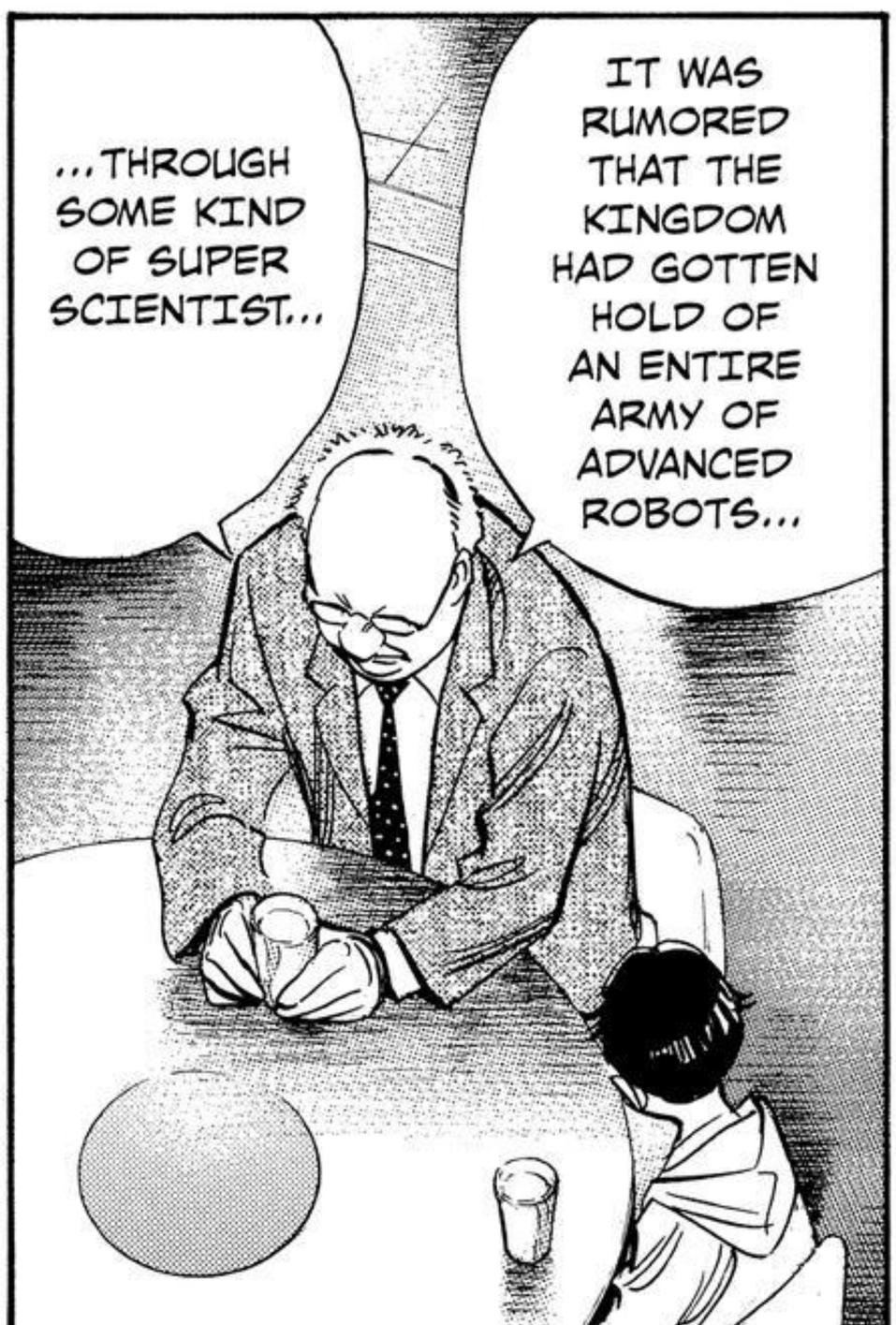

...SCREAMING IN AGONY FROM TERRIBLE WOUNDS...
THERE WERE CHILDREN WHO'D LOST THEIR PARENTS ...

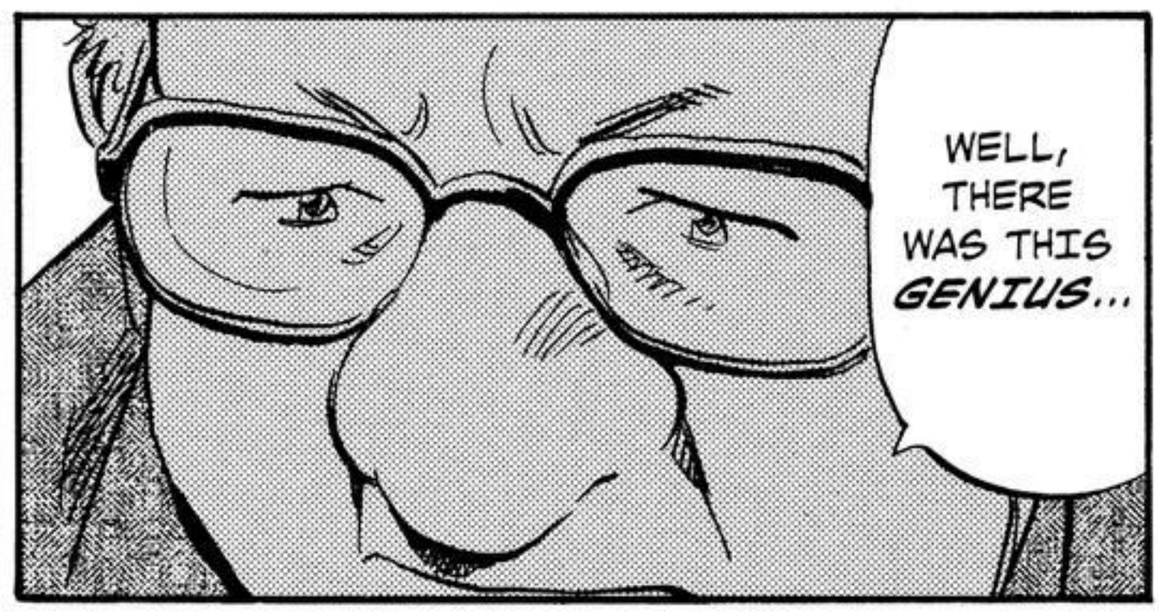
I KNOW, ATOM...

WE DIDN'T FIND ANY-THING...

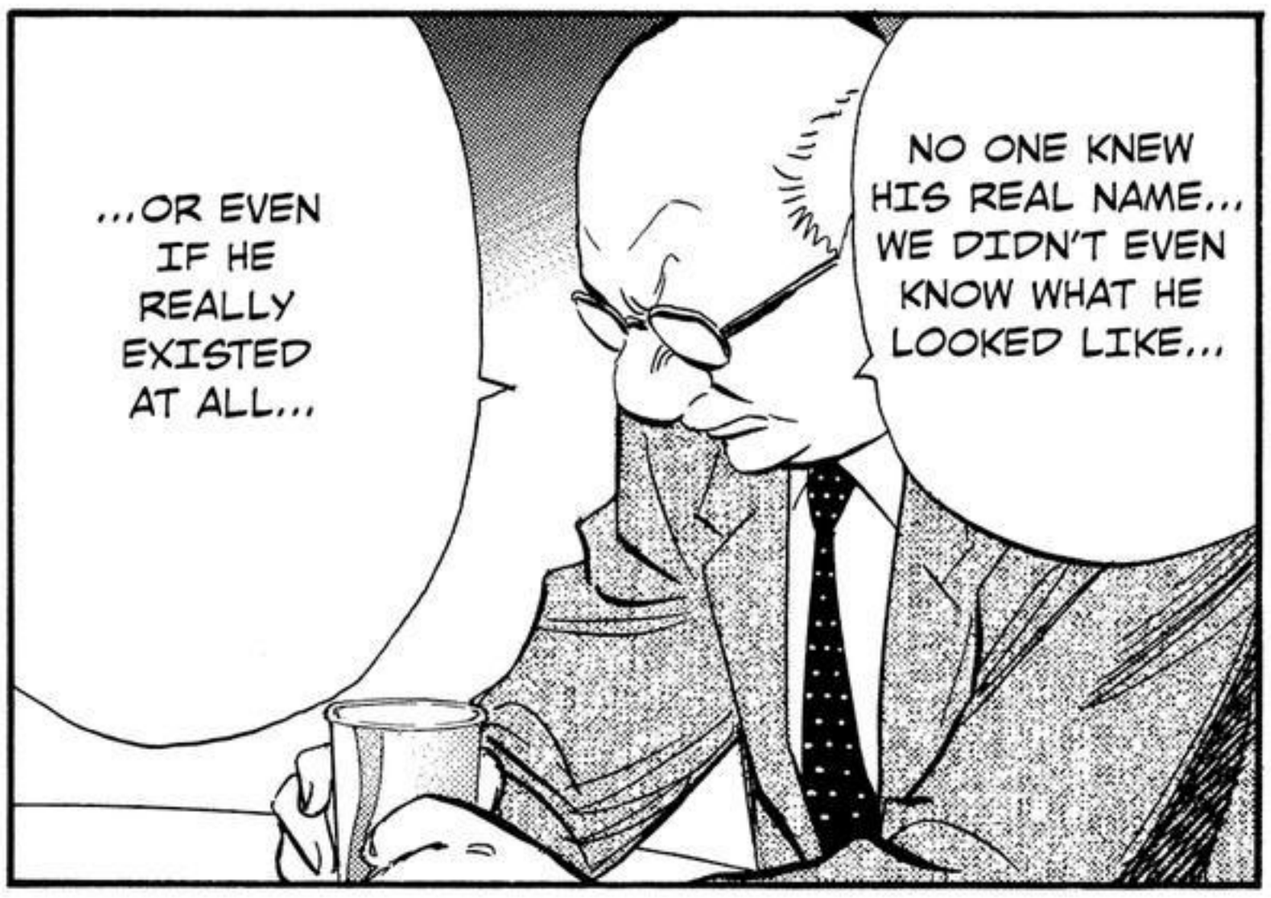


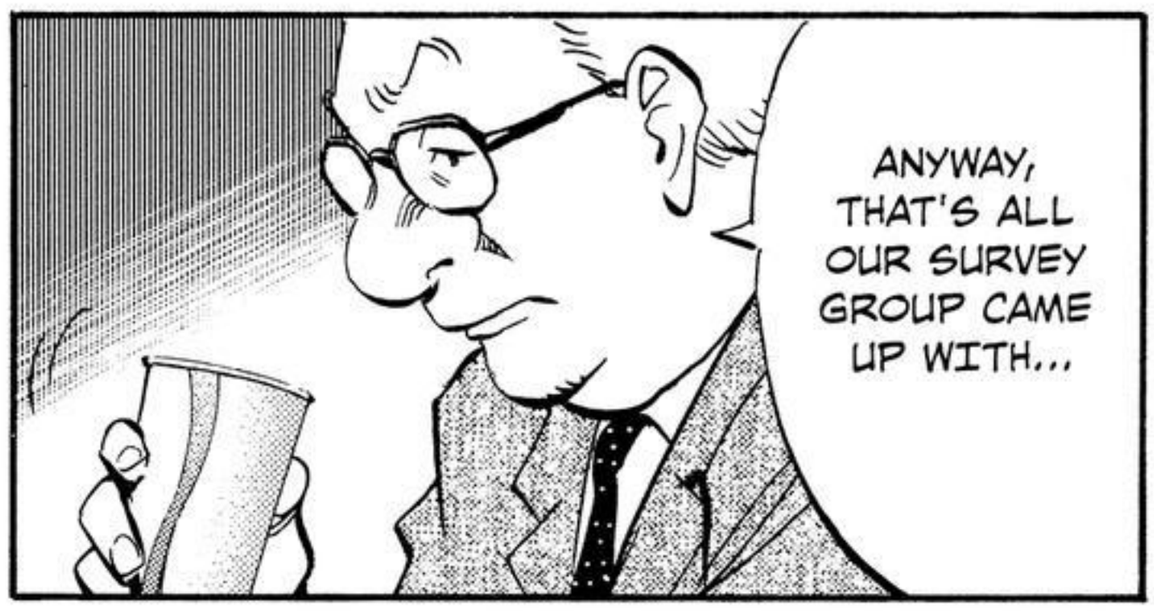




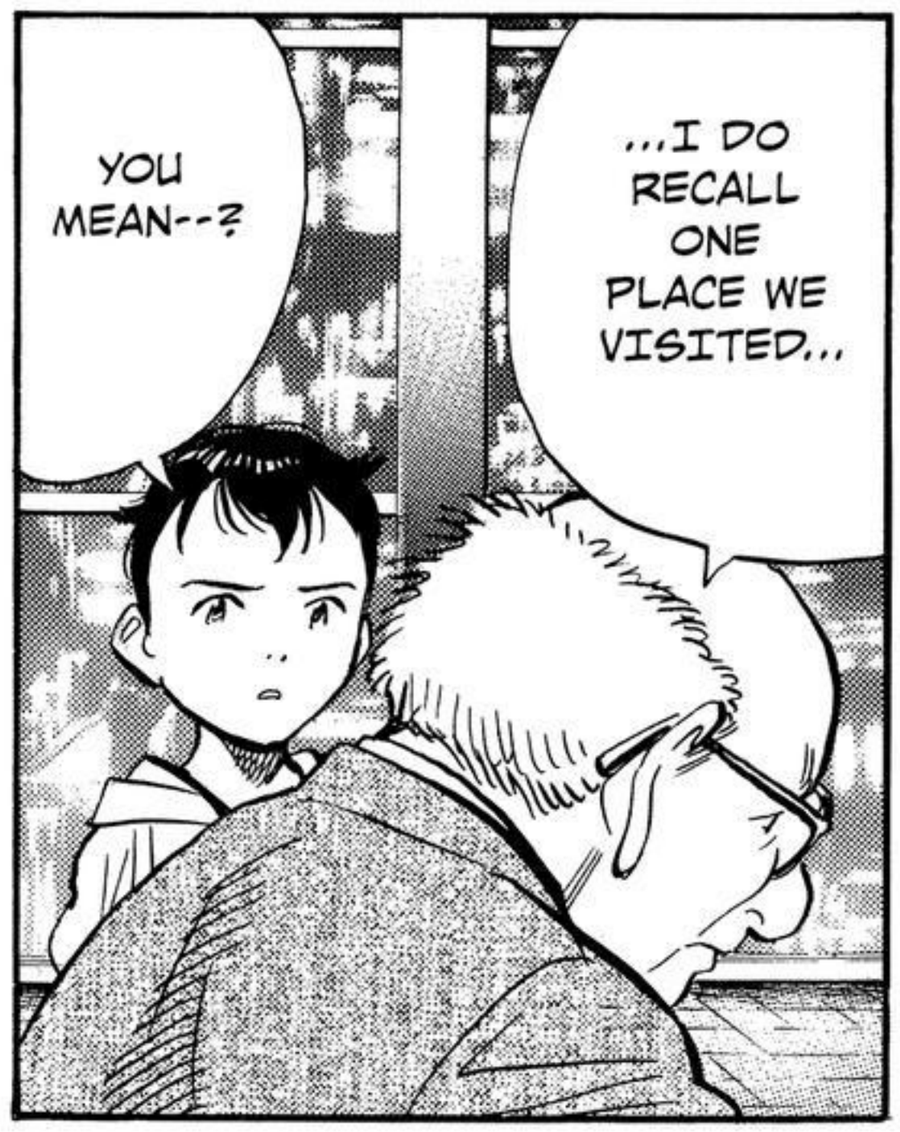


SOMEONE CALLED DR. GOJI...


NO ONE KNEW HIS REAL NAME... WE DIDN'T EVEN KNOW WHAT HE LOOKED LIKE...
...OR EVEN IF HE REALLY EXISTED AT ALL...


ANYWAY, THAT'S ALL OUR SURVEY GROUP CAME UP WITH...

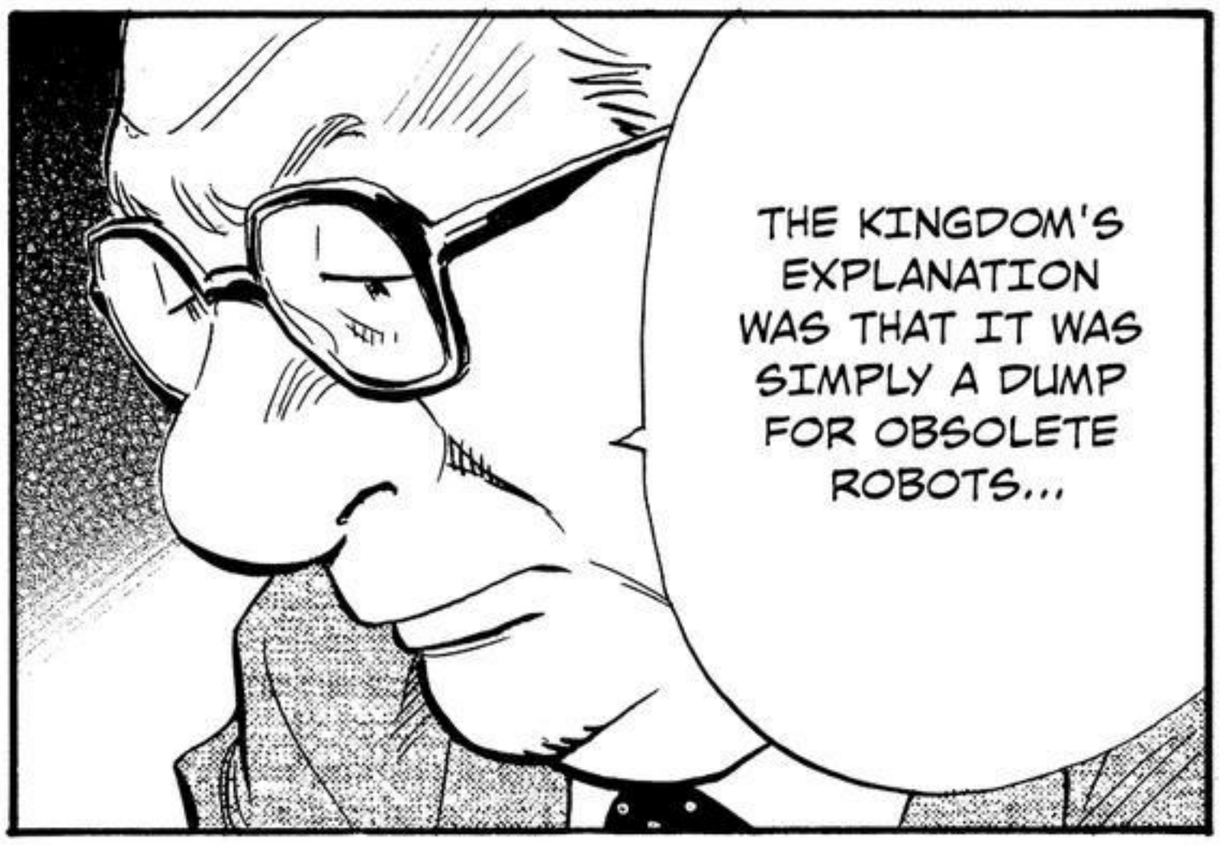
BUT...

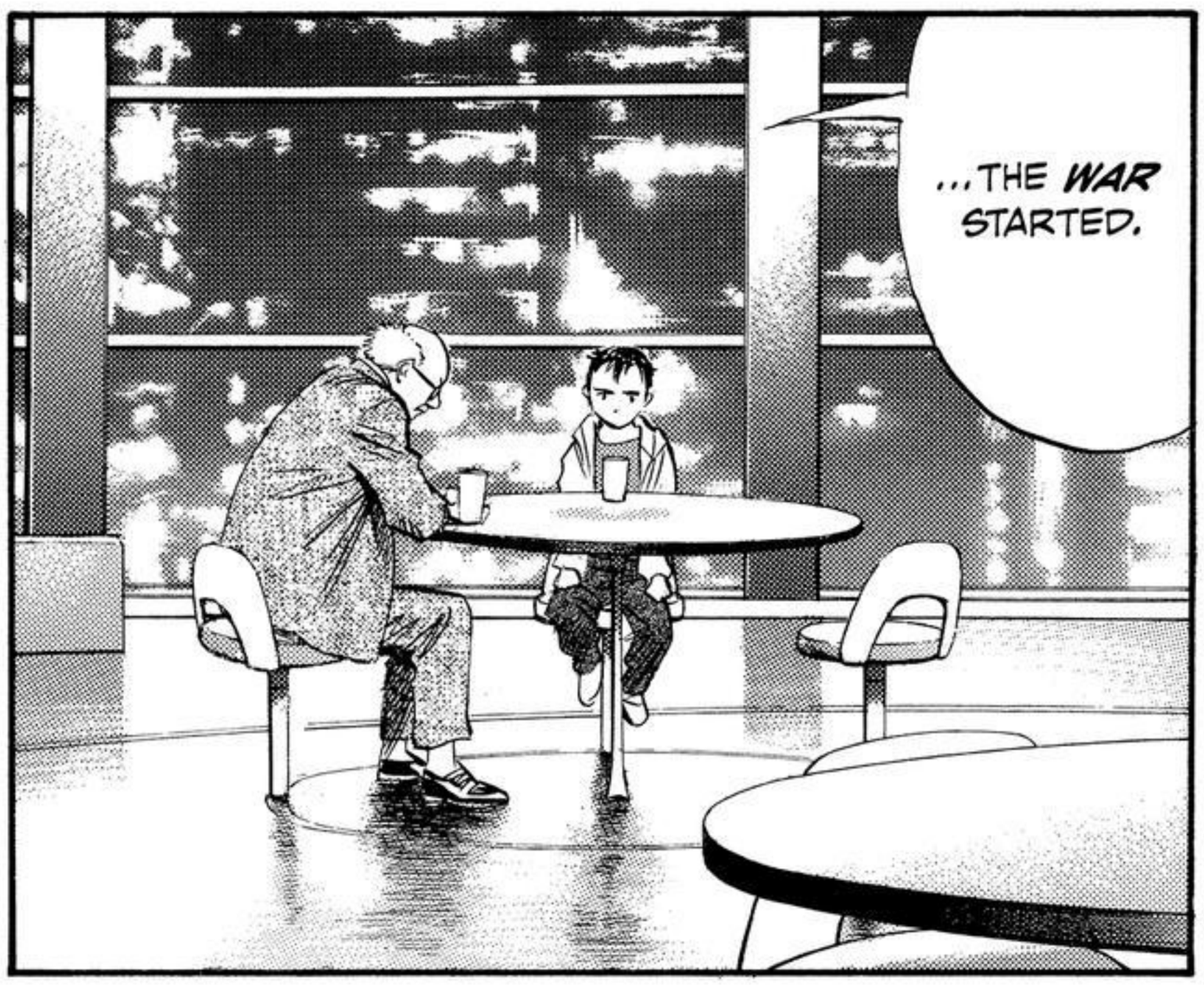

...I DO RECALL ONE PLACE WE VISITED...
YOU MEAN--?

DEEP UNDER-GROUND BENEATH AN OLD MOSQUE...

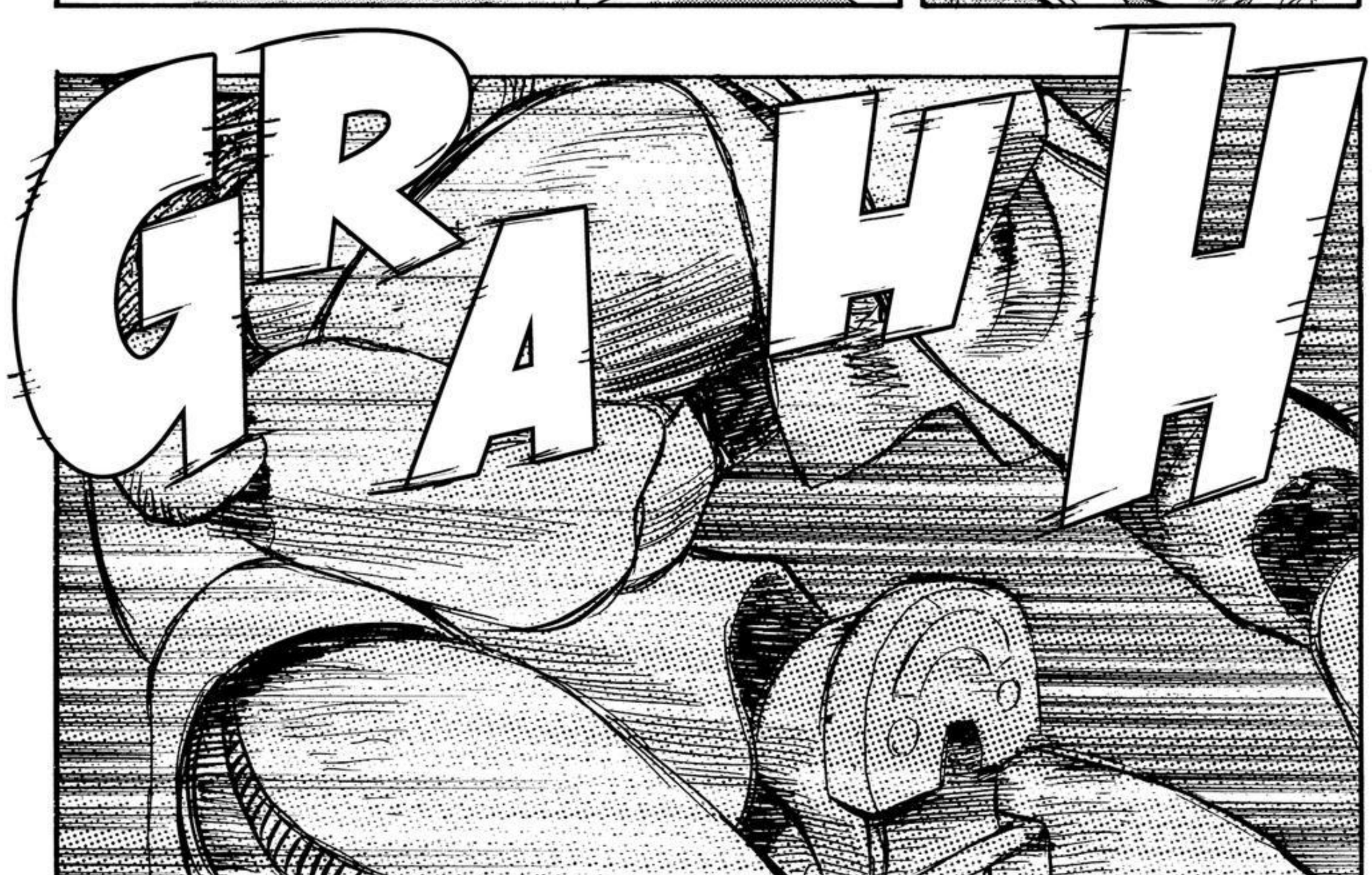
FRANKLY, ATOM, I STILL DON'T KNOW WHAT TO MAKE OF WHAT WE SAW...

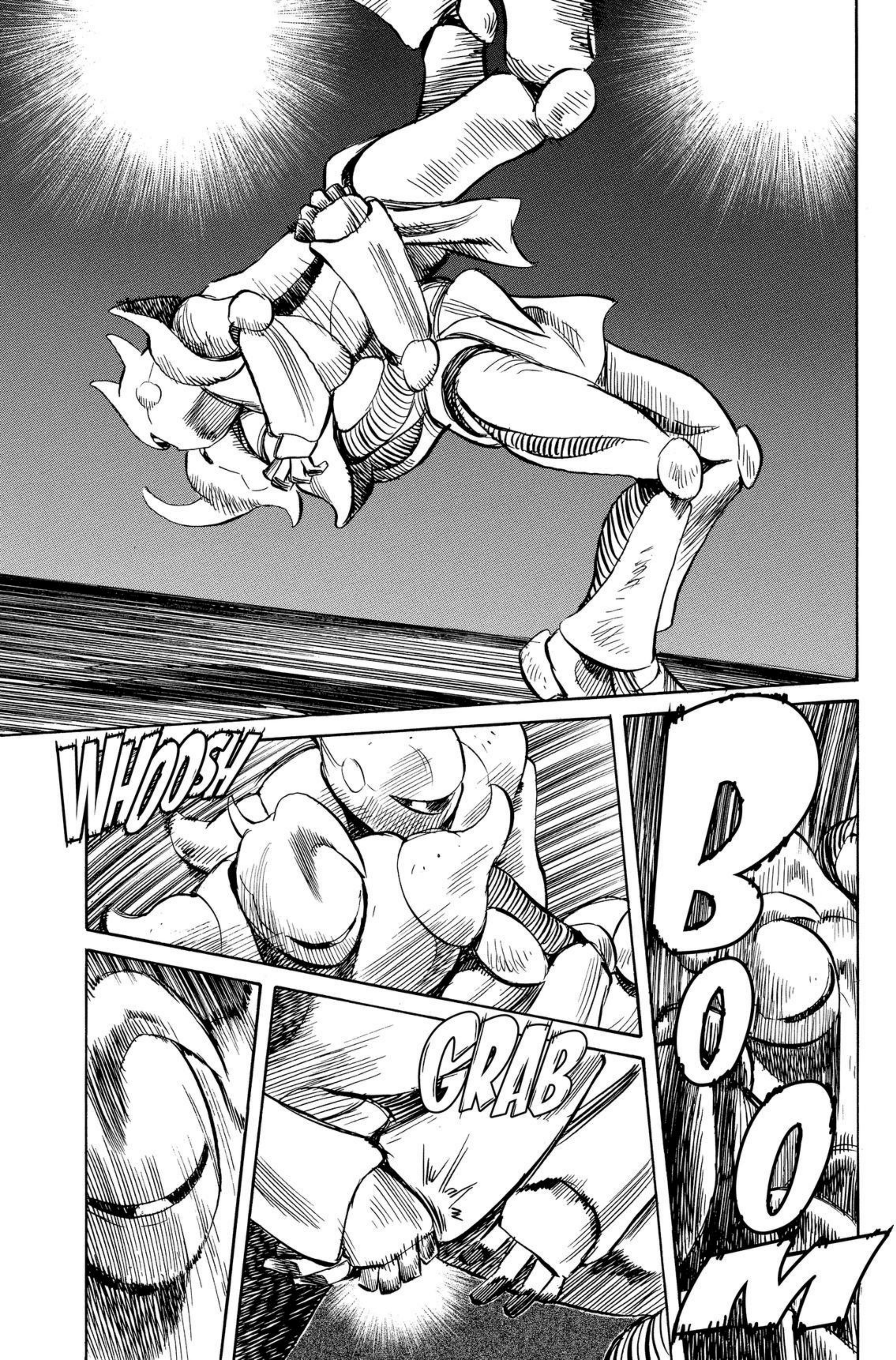
A SEA OF THOUSANDS OF DISCARDED ROBOT CORPSES...

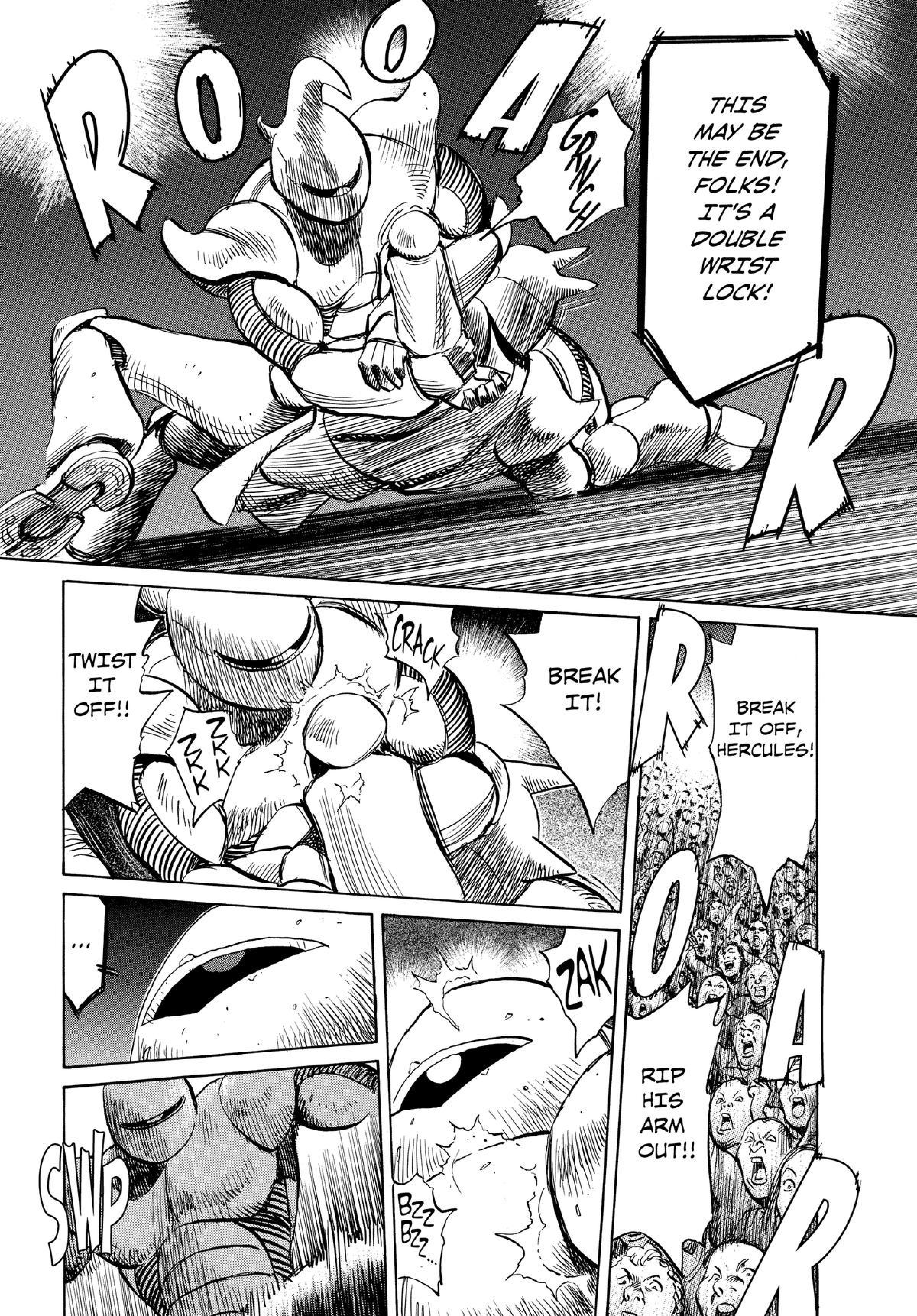

THE KINGDOM'S EXPLANATION WAS THAT IT WAS SIMPLY A DUMP FOR OBSOLETE ROBOTS...

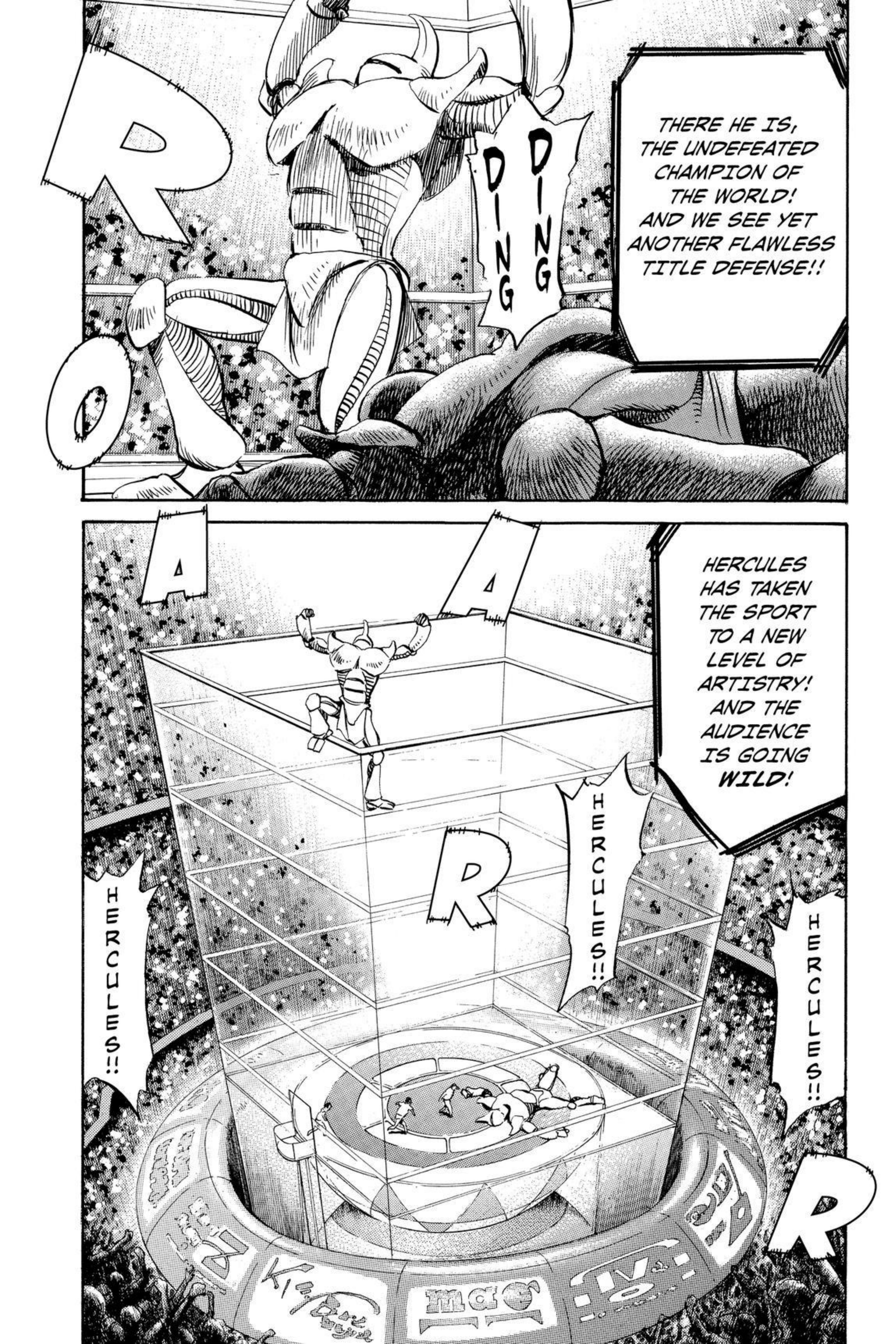

...THE *WAR* STARTED.

SOON AFTER THAT...


GRAAA!!

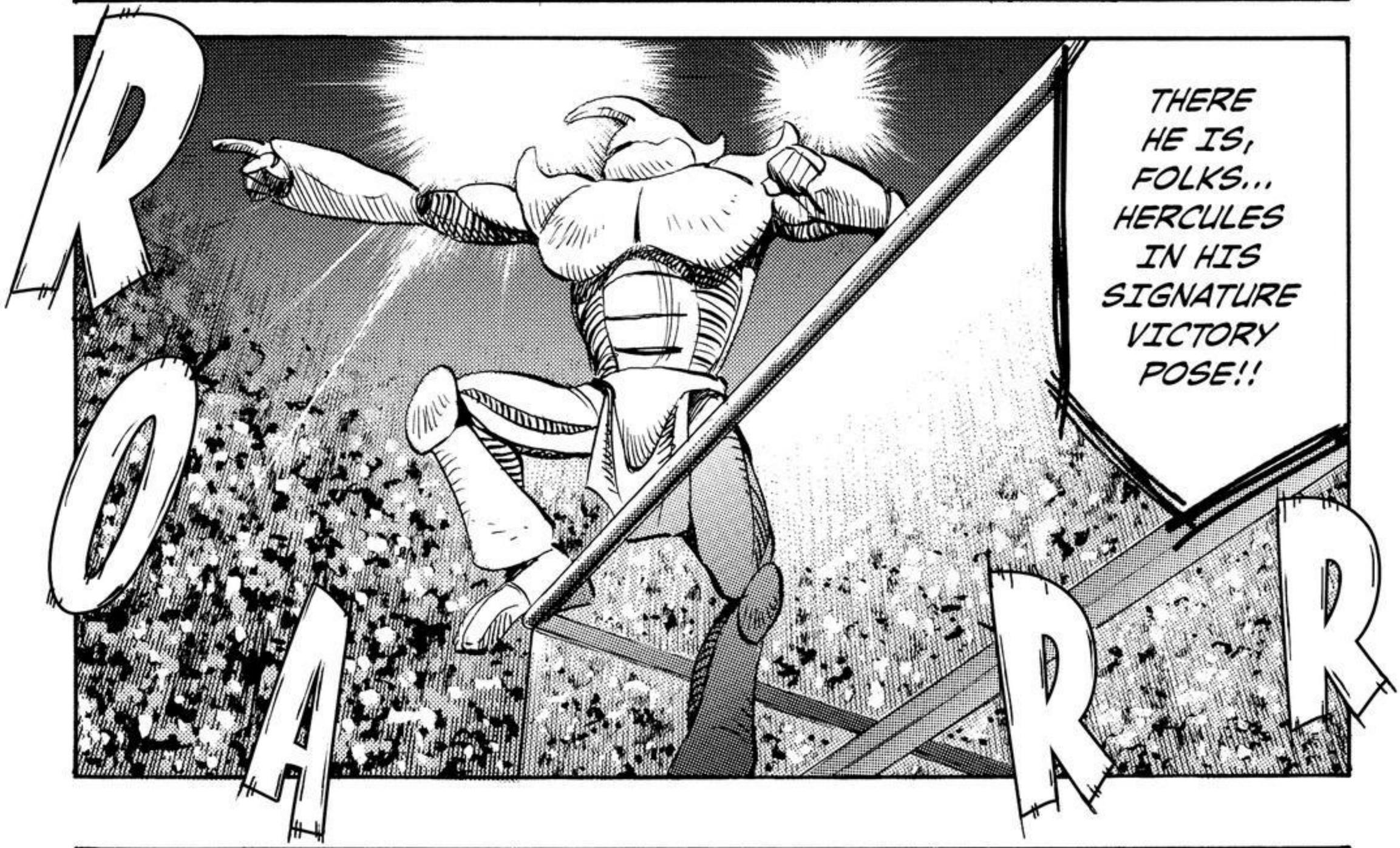

WHOOSH
GRAB
BOOM

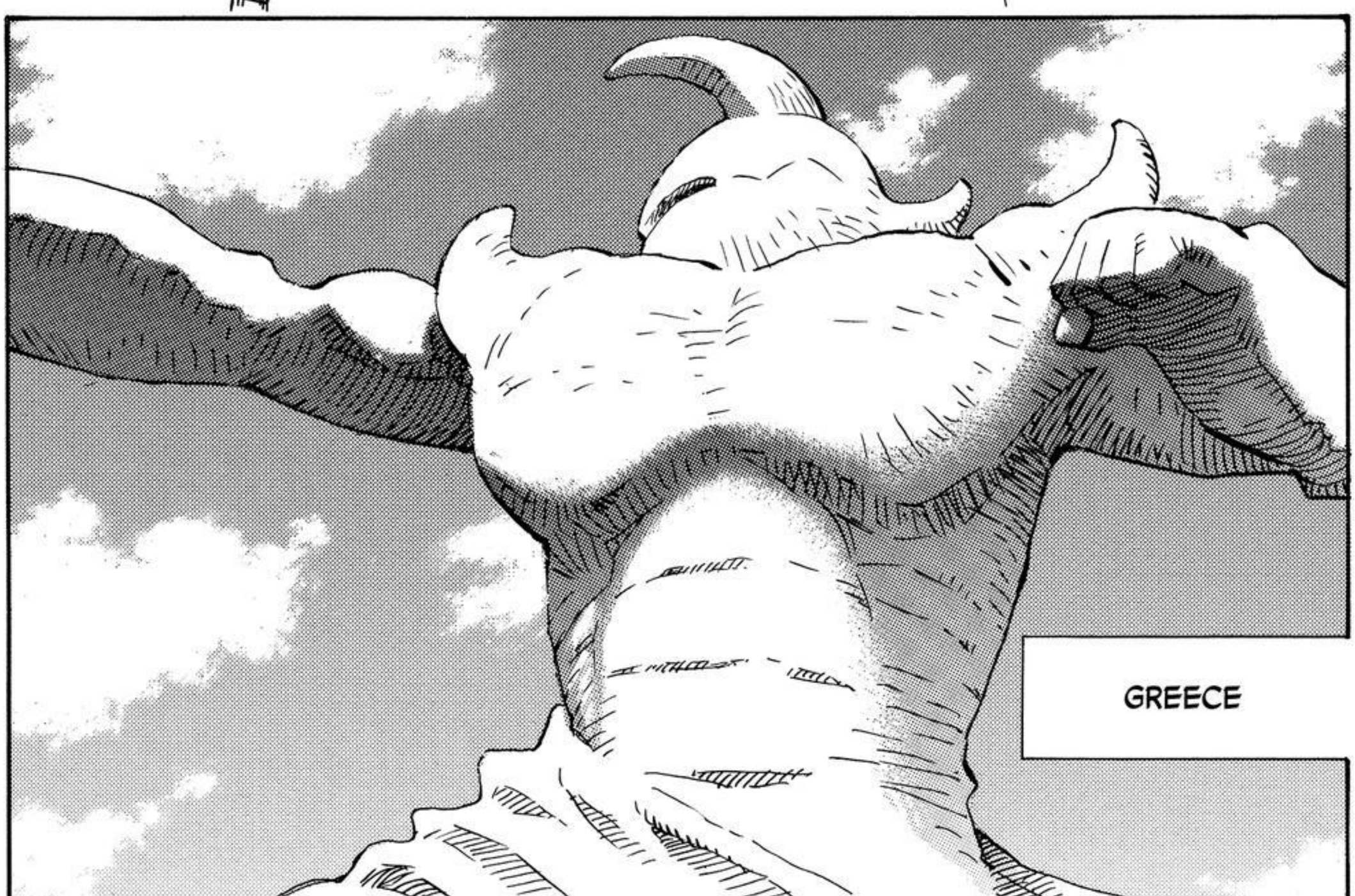

ROOOAR
GRNCH
THIS MAY BE THE END, FOLKS! IT'S A DOUBLE WRIST LOCK!
RRR
TWIST IT OFF!!
ZKK ZKK
CRACK
BREAK IT!
ROAR
BREAK IT OFF, HERCULES!
...
ZAK
RIP HIS ARM OUT!!
SWP
BZZ BZZ...


DING
DING
THERE HE IS, THE UNDEFEATED CHAMPION OF THE WORLD! AND WE SEE YET ANOTHER FLAWLESS TITLE DEFENSE!!
HERCULES HAS TAKEN THE SPORT TO A NEW LEVEL OF ARTISTRY! AND THE AUDIENCE IS GOING WILD!
HERCULES!!
HERCULES!!
HERCULES!!

THEIR LAST FOUR MATCHES ENDED IN NO-CONTEST DECISIONS! WILL THE NEXT ONE DECIDE ONCE AND FOR ALL WHO WILL TRULY BE THE UNDISPUTED **CHAMPION OF THE WORLD?!**

NEXT MONTH, FOLKS, WE'LL FINALLY HAVE THE ULTIMATE SHOWDOWN— HERCULES AGAINST BRANDO, THE CHAMPION OF EUROPE!





I KEPT TELLING 'EM NOT TO PUT THAT THING UP. IT JUST RUINS THE VIEW OF THE REAL MONUMENTS...

WHSH

WHSH

AN AMAZING MONUMENT, HERCULES!

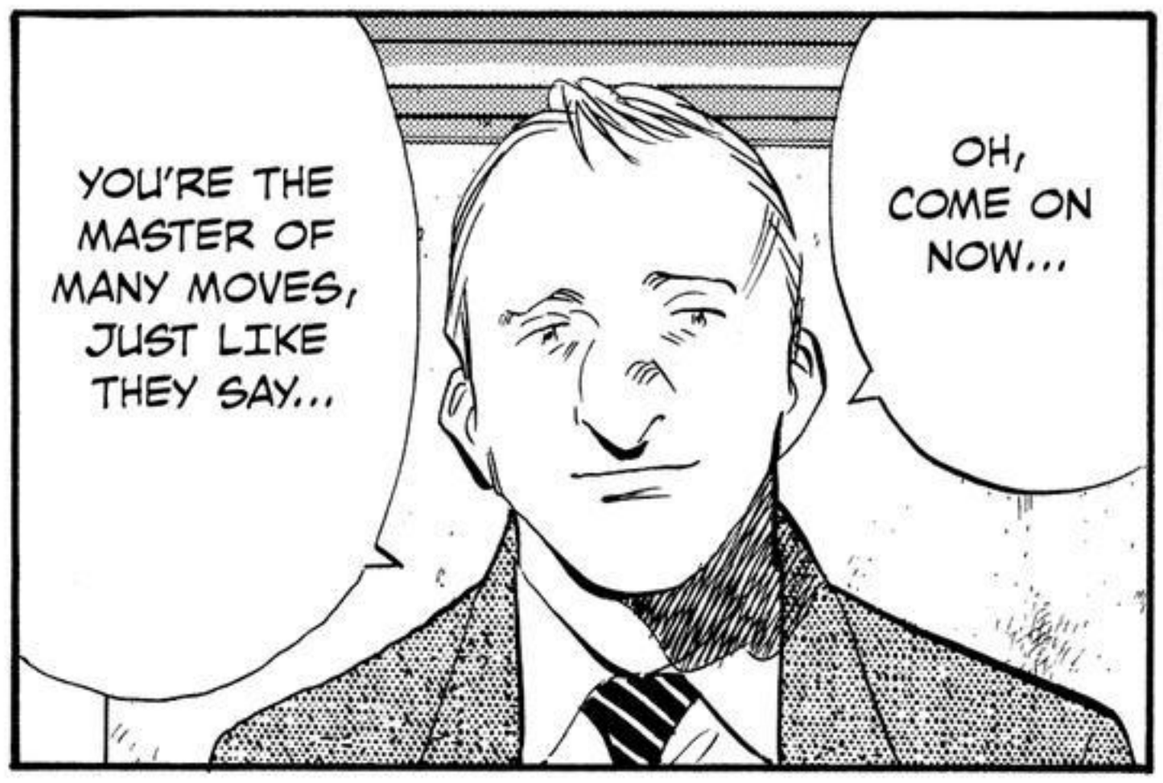
YOU'RE AS POWERFUL AS EVER...

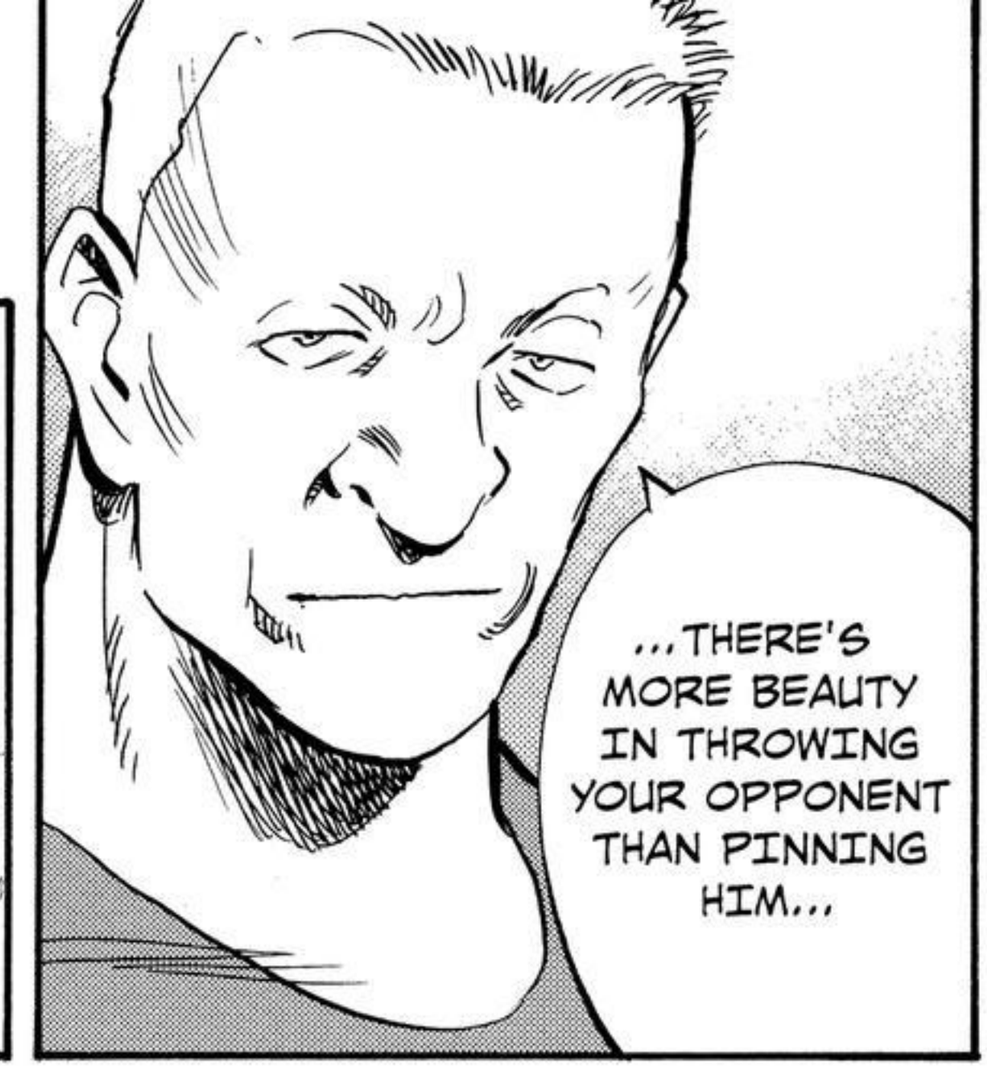
I SAW THE MATCH LAST NIGHT...

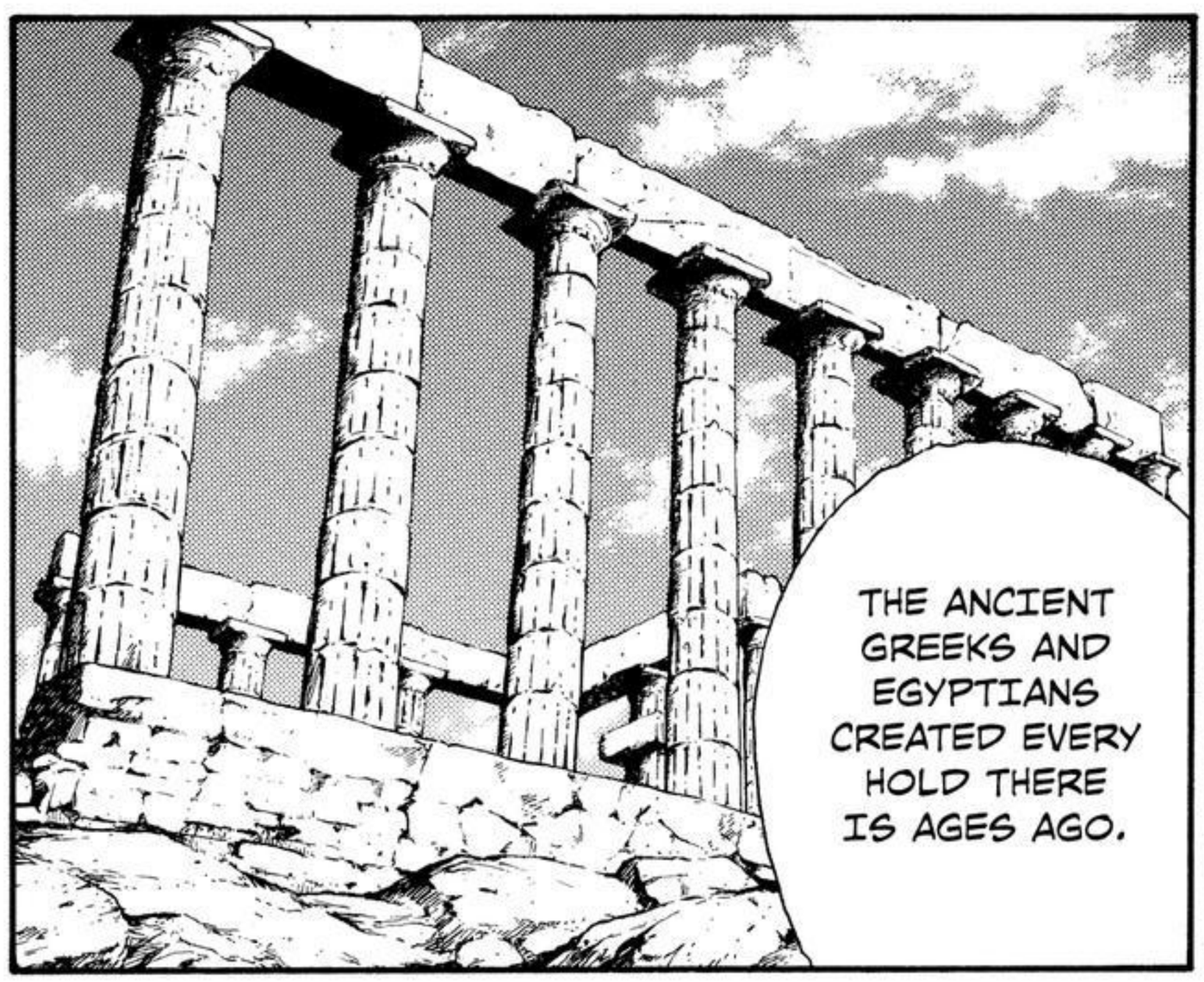
YEAH, BUT I THINK IT WAS PLATO WHO ONCE SAID...

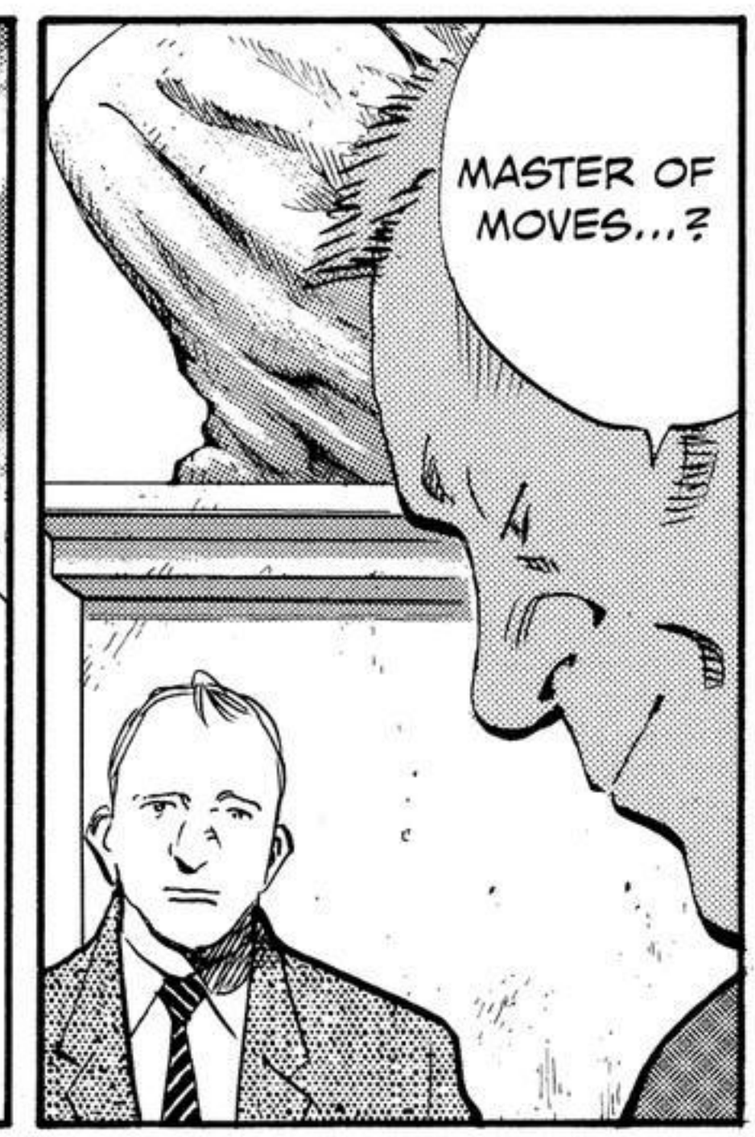
GUESS HUMANS JUST LIKE THAT KIND OF STUFF...

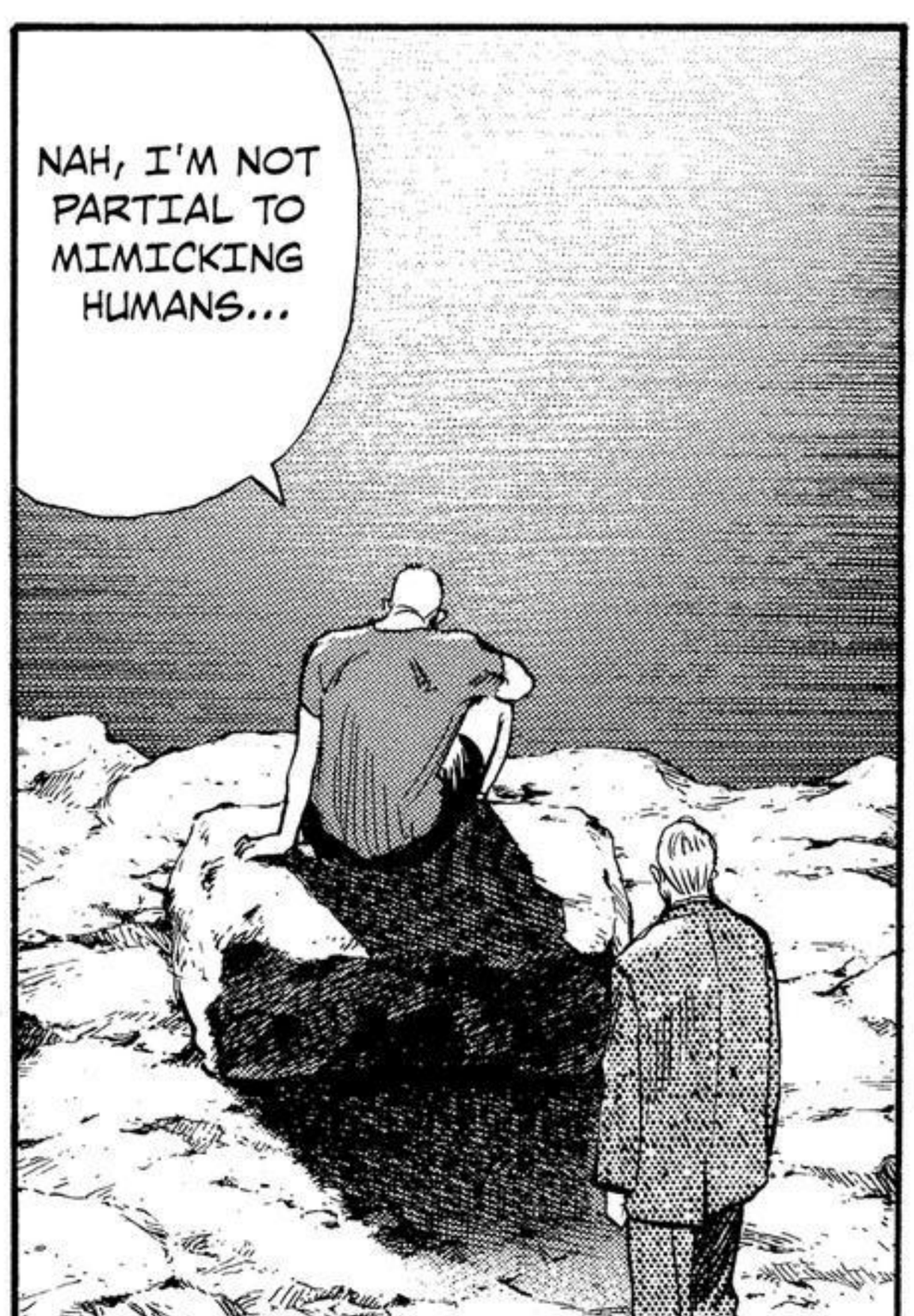
BUT THEY WENT AHEAD AND ERECTED A STATUE OF ME IN MY PANKRATION SUIT ANYWAY...


YOU'RE THE MASTER OF MANY MOVES, JUST LIKE THEY SAY...
OH, COME ON NOW...


...THERE'S MORE BEAUTY IN THROWING YOUR OPPONENT THAN PINNING HIM...


THE ANCIENT GREEKS AND EGYPTIANS CREATED EVERY HOLD THERE IS AGES AGO.

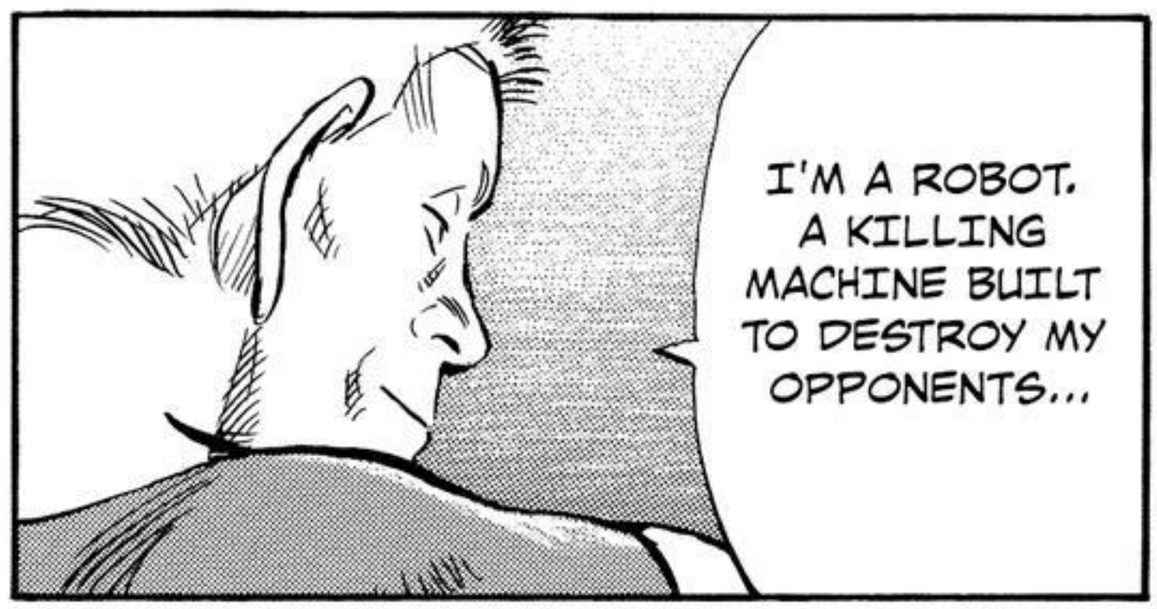

MASTER OF MOVES...?


NAH, I'M NOT PARTIAL TO MIMICKING HUMANS...

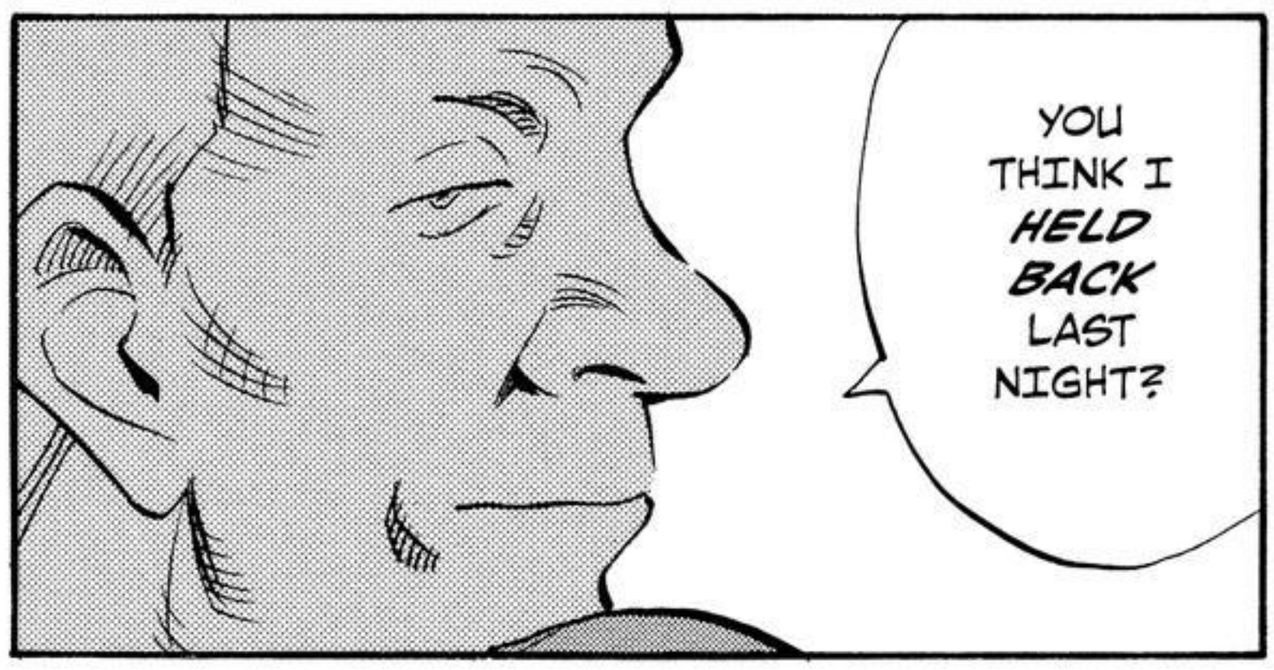
...

WHY DON'T WE SIT DOWN OVER A CUP OF TEA AND TALK, HERCULES...

I'VE GONE SOFT...? IS THAT WHAT YOU'RE SAYING?

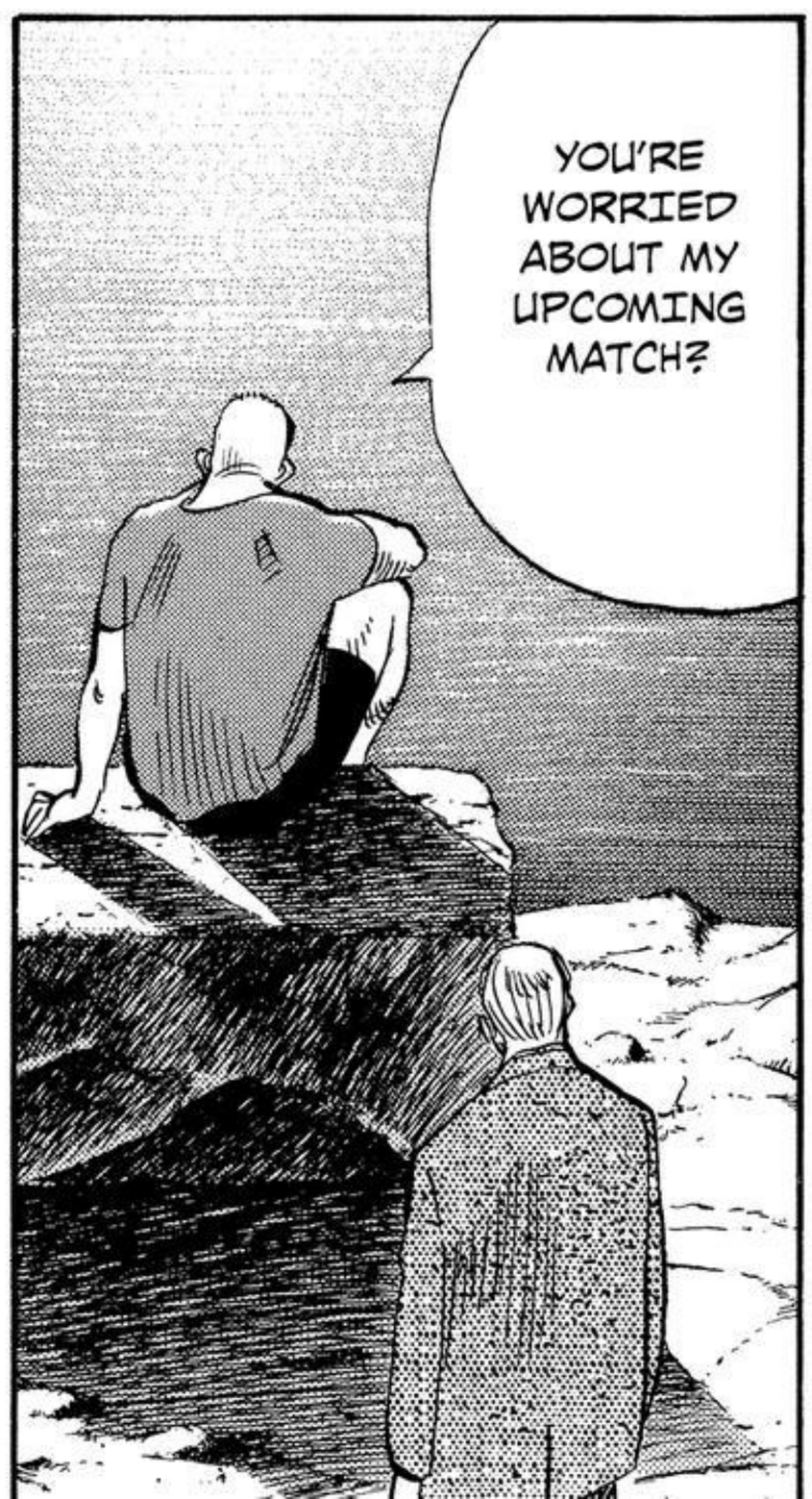

I'M A ROBOT. A KILLING MACHINE BUILT TO DESTROY MY OPPONENTS...

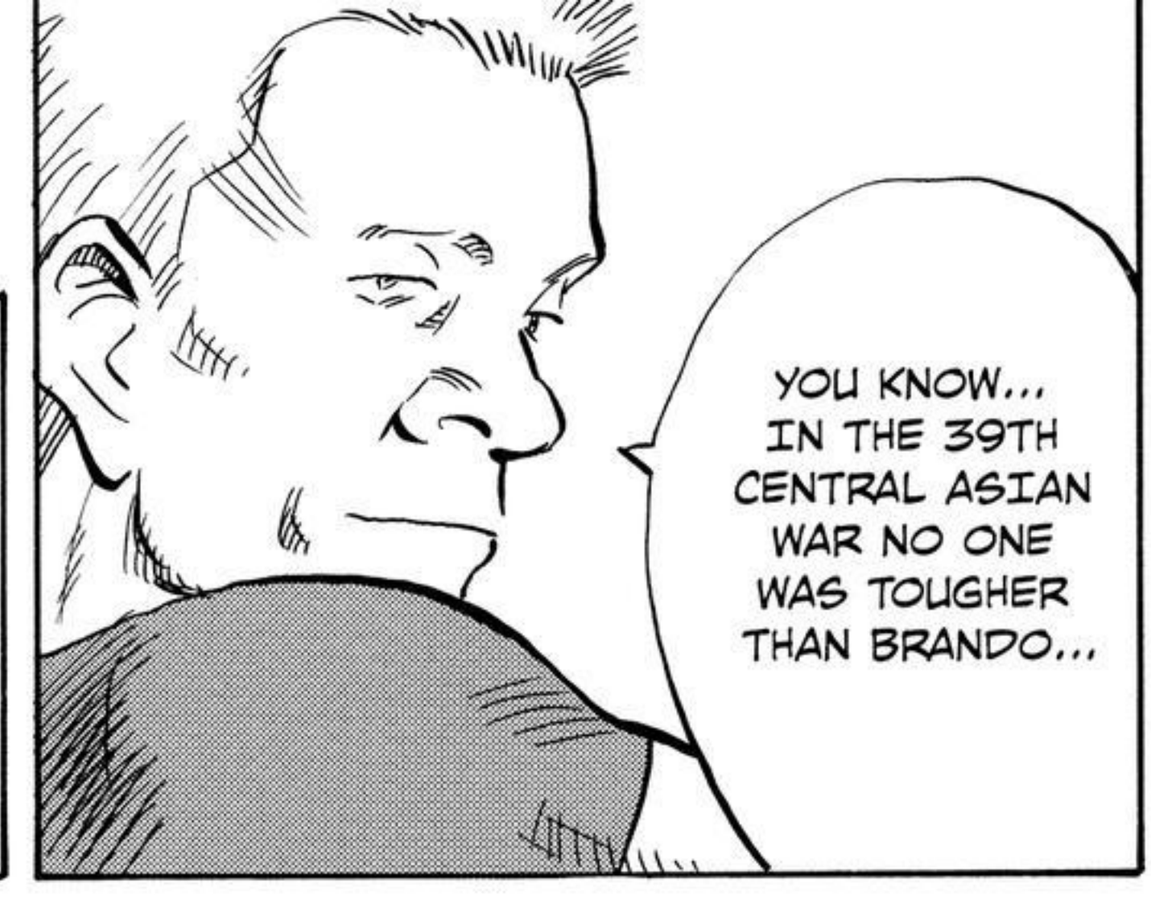
BUT IN YOUR RECENT MATCHES...

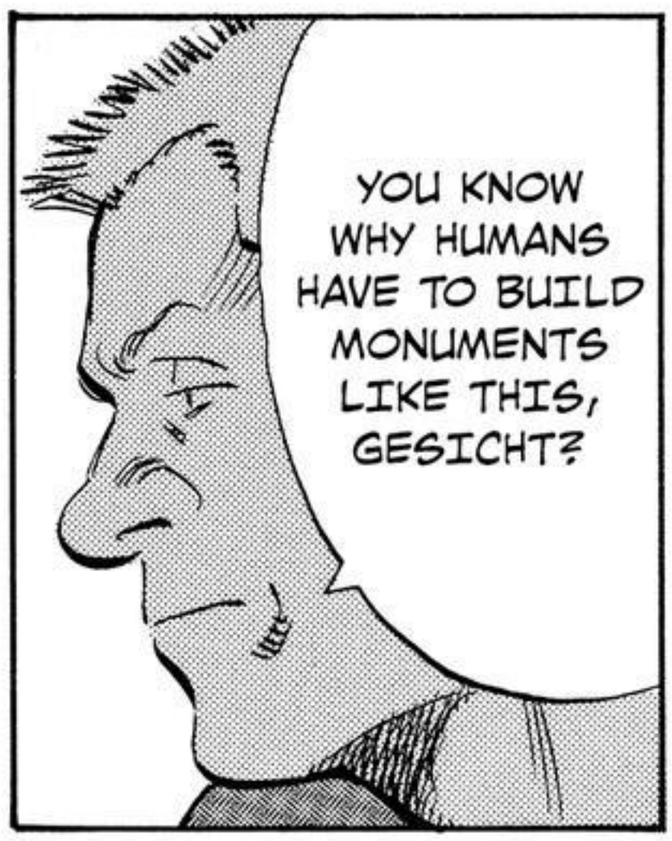

YOU THINK I *HELD BACK* LAST NIGHT?

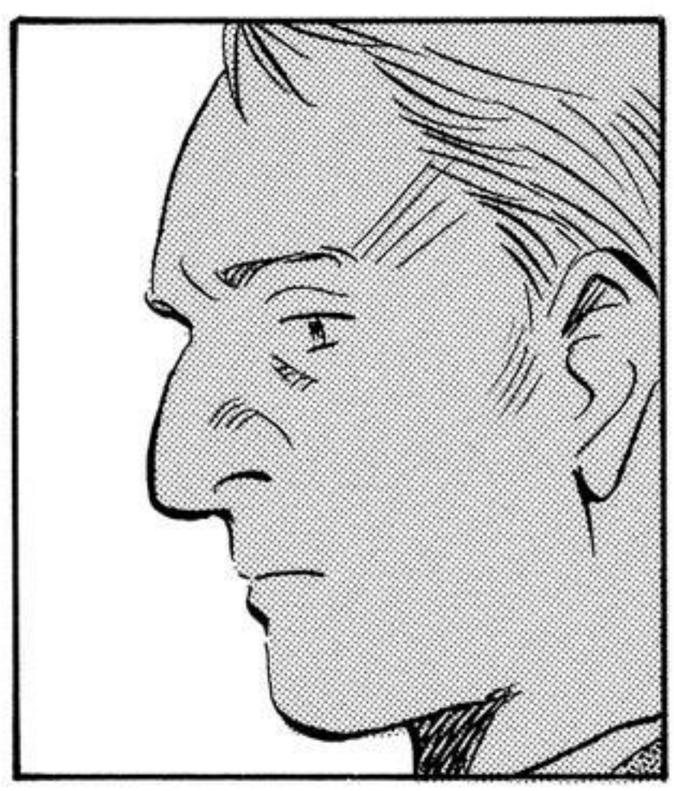
I DID. HE WAS IN TOP FORM...
I HEAR YOU WENT TO SEE HIM RECENTLY, RIGHT?

WE'VE FOUGHT SEVERAL TIMES... HE'S TOUGH.
BRANDO ...

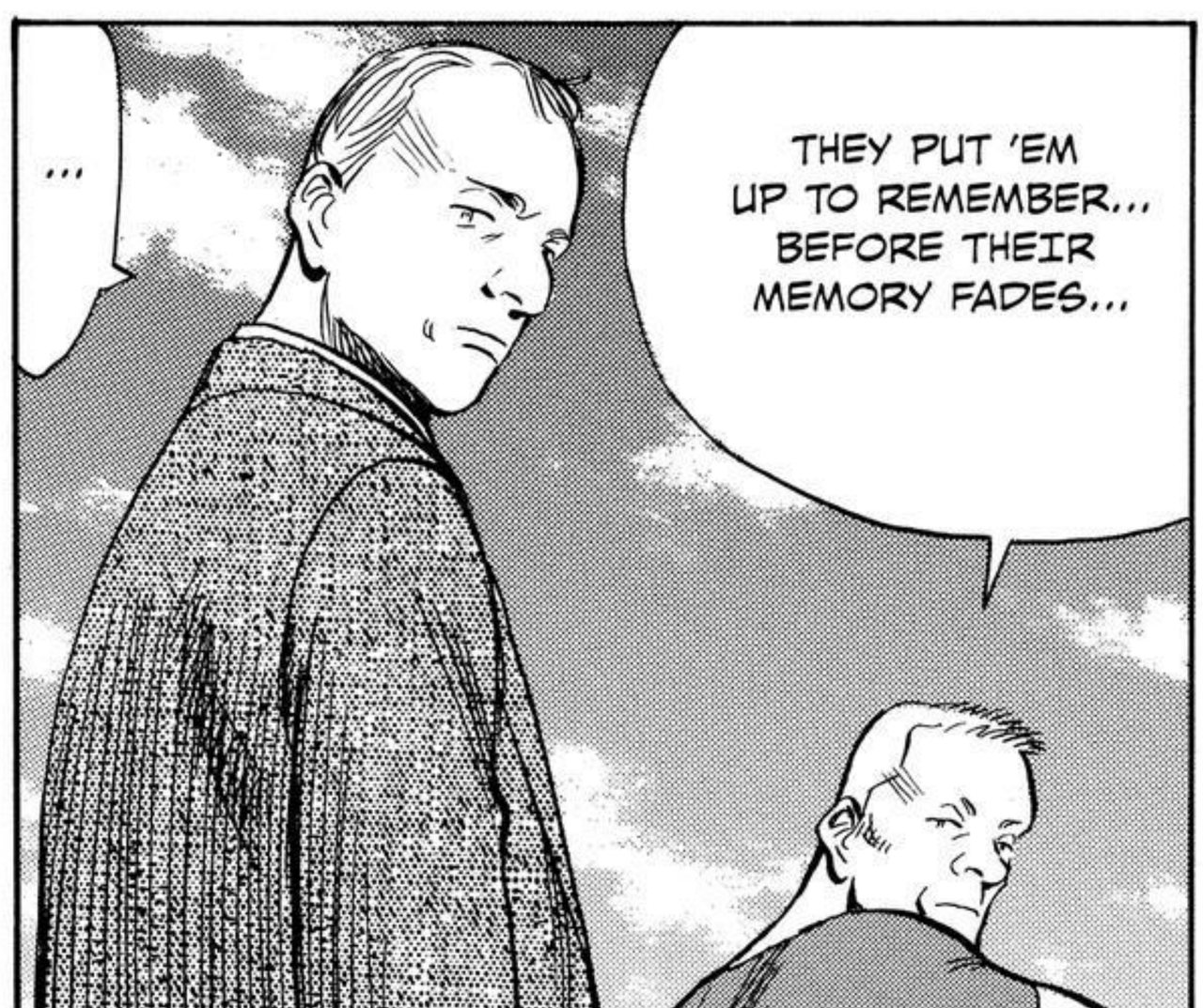

YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT MY UPCOMING MATCH?


YOU KNOW... IN THE 39TH CENTRAL ASIAN WAR NO ONE WAS TOUGHER THAN BRANDO...


YOU KNOW WHY HUMANS HAVE TO BUILD MONUMENTS LIKE THIS, GESICHT?

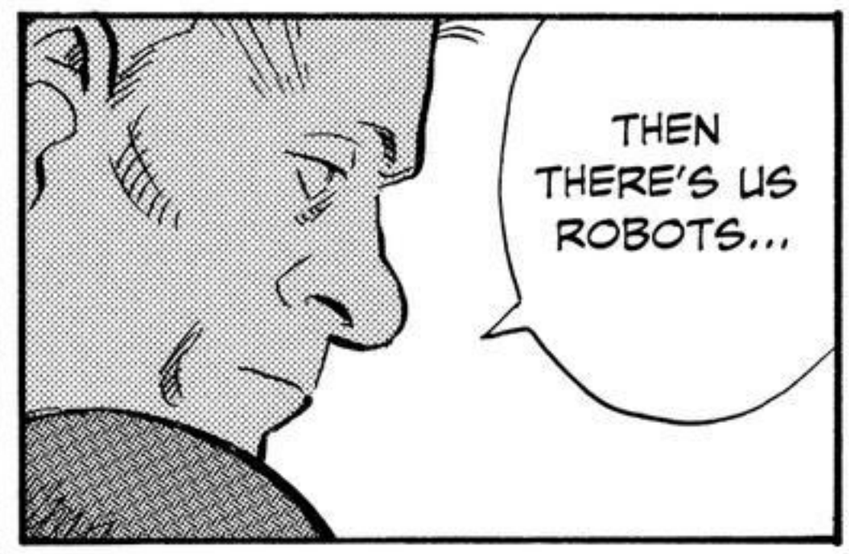


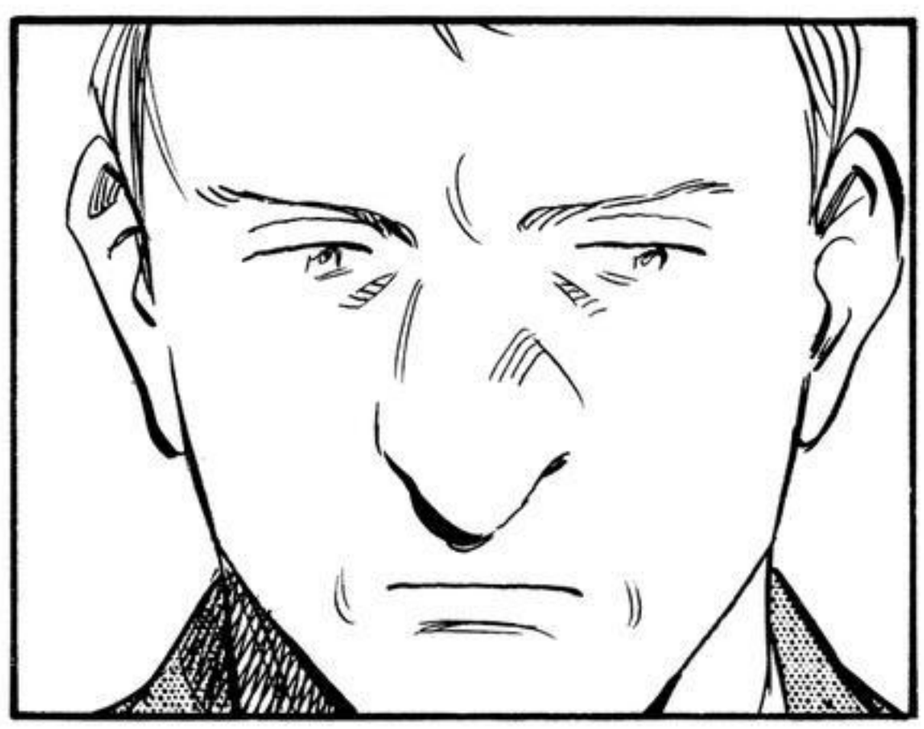
FWSHH


...
THEY PUT 'EM UP TO REMEMBER... BEFORE THEIR MEMORY FADES...

...BECAUSE THEY *FORGET.*

OUR MEMORIES LAST FOREVER... AS LONG AS WE DON'T ERASE ANYTHING.


THEN THERE'S US ROBOTS...



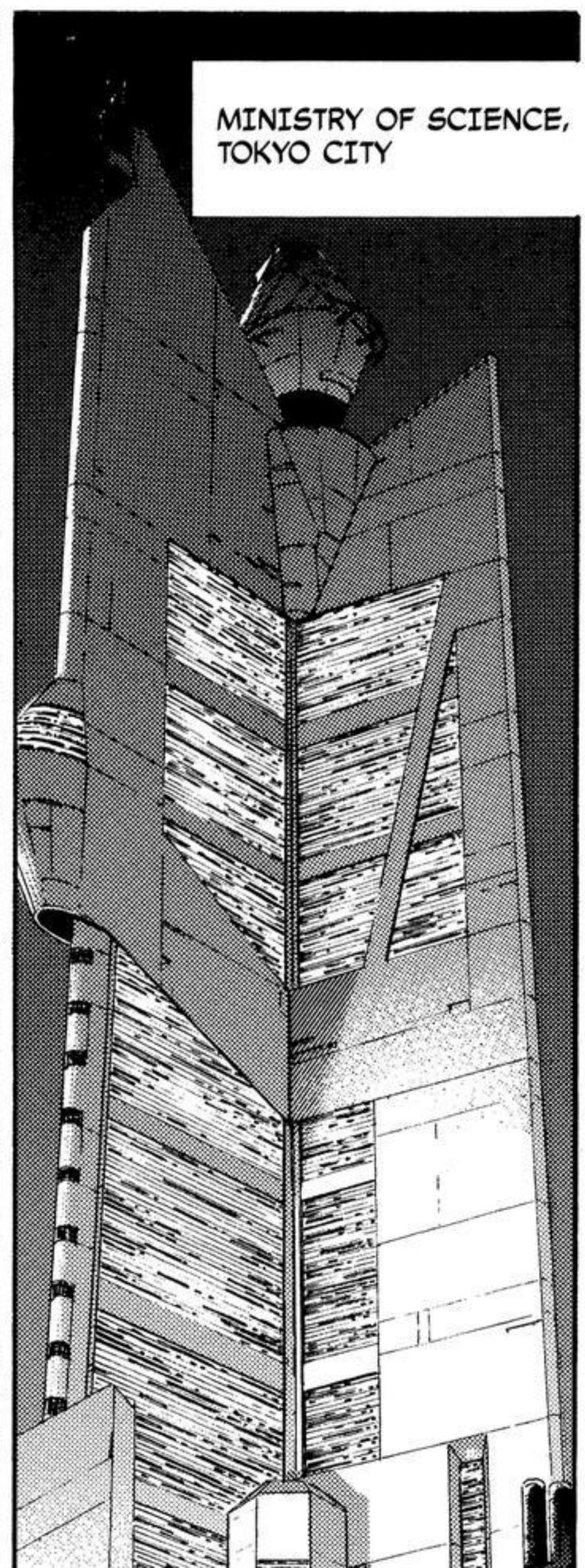
EVEN IF I WANTED TO, I COULD NEVER FORGET WHAT I SAW IN THE WAR. IT'S STILL CLEAR AS DAY...

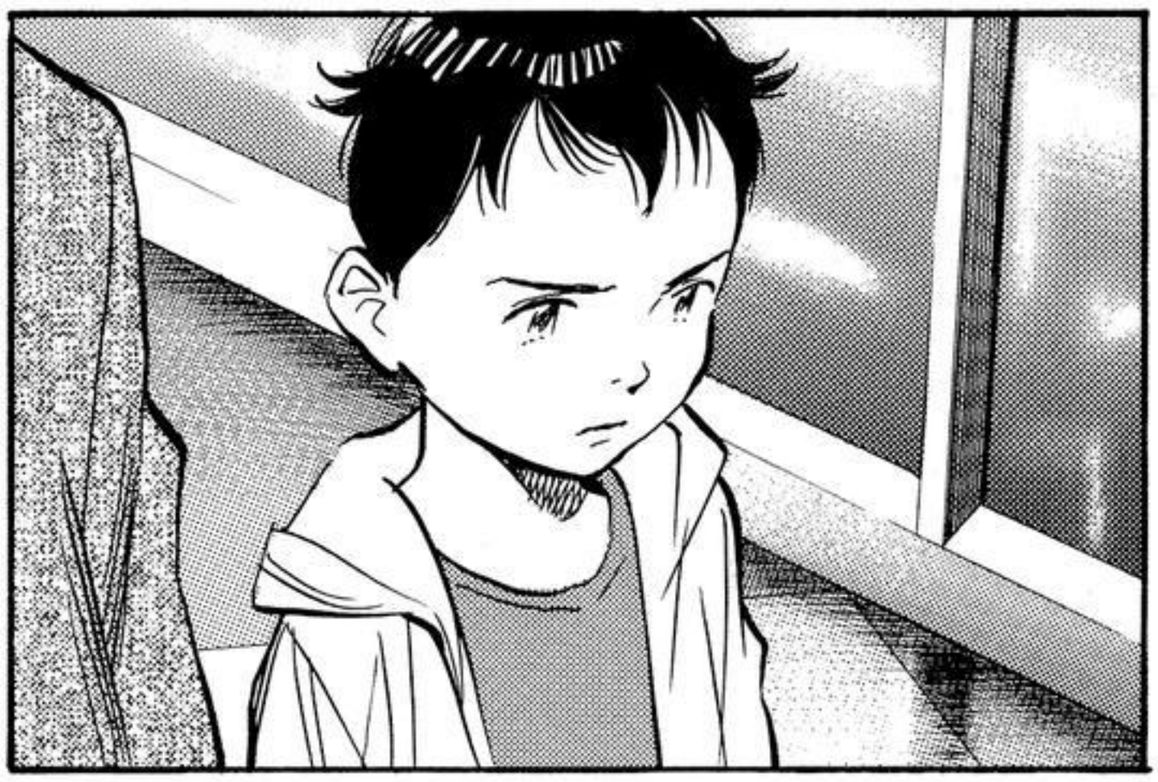
IT CHANGED ME...

THOSE MOUNTAINS OF ROBOT CORPSES...

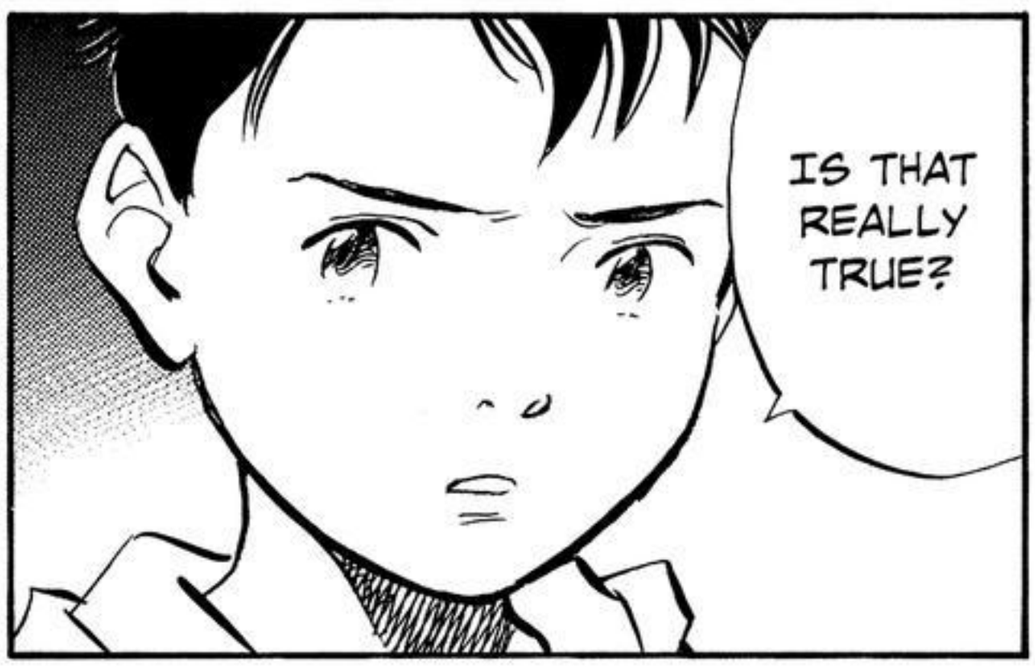
IT GAVE ME THIS KILLER INSTINCT!
YOU KNOW WHAT HUMANS CALL THIS...?
BUT YOU KNOW WHAT? SINCE THE WAR, I CAN'T BRING MYSELF TO DESTROY MY OPPONENTS...
COMPASSION ...?
...YOU THINK...
SAY...
FWSHH

...WE MIGHT BE *EVOLVING* ...?

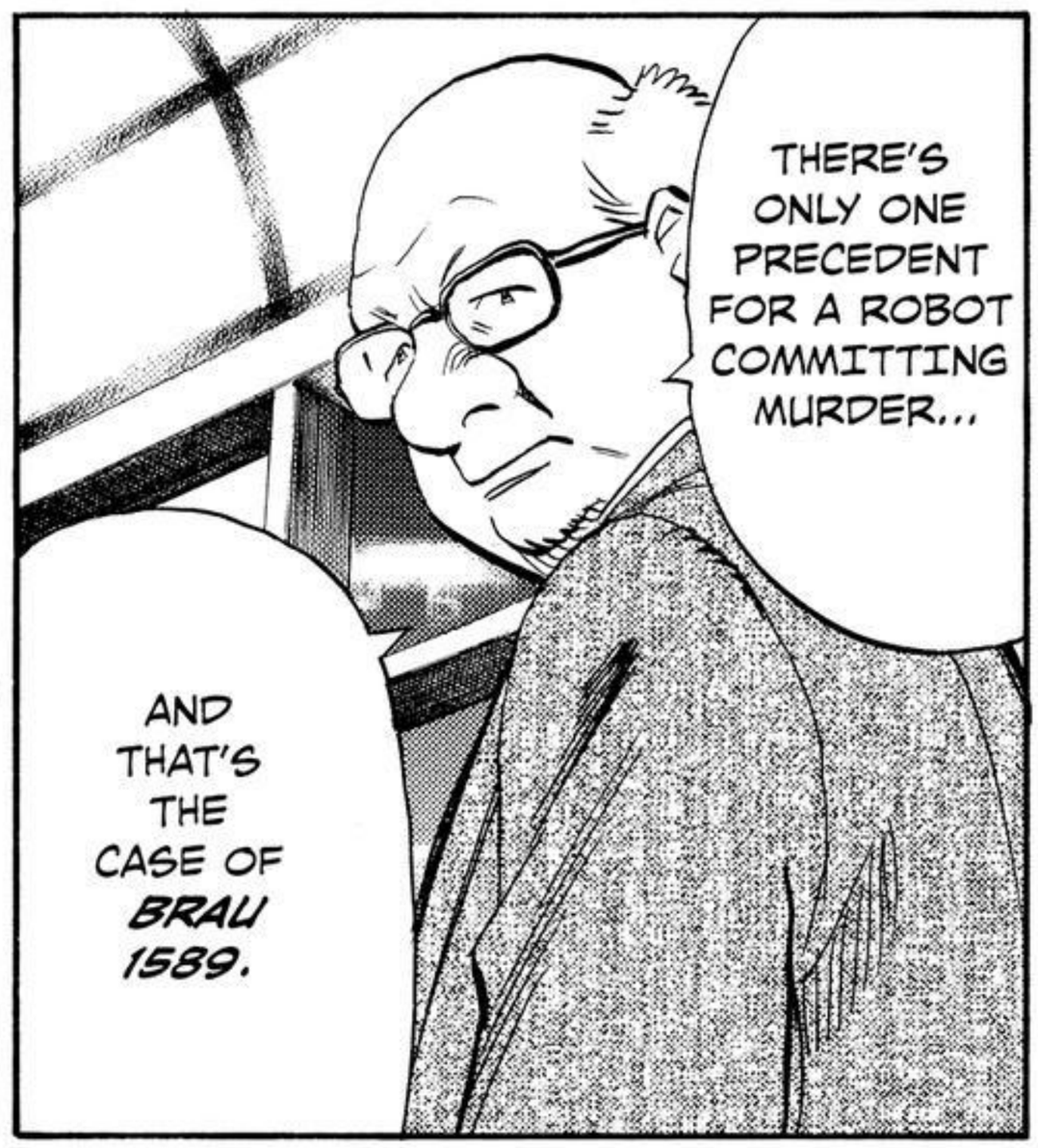




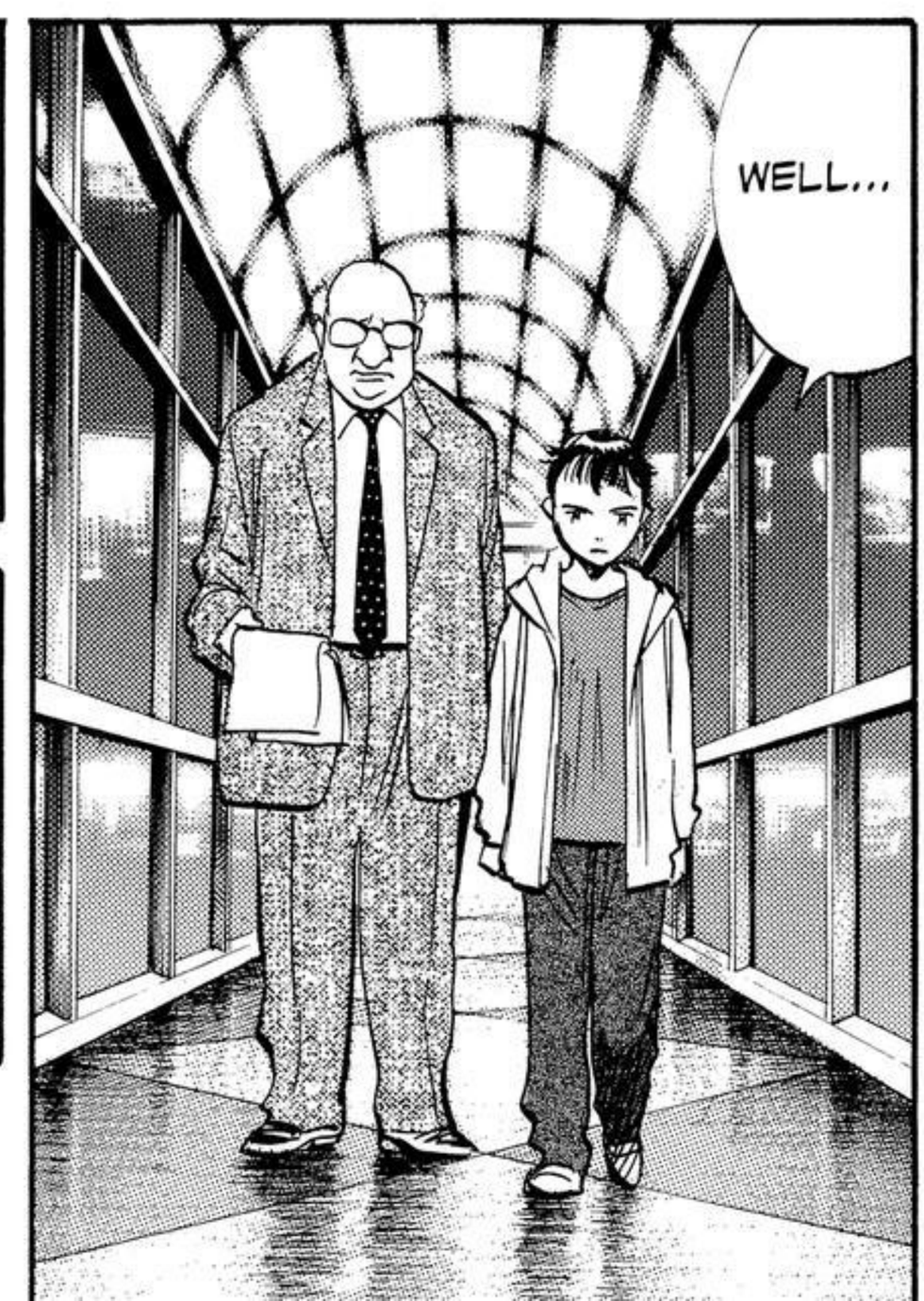
...A ROBOT?
...OR PERHAPS A COMBINATION OF THE TWO...?


IS THAT REALLY TRUE?

WHY DO YOU ASK?
?

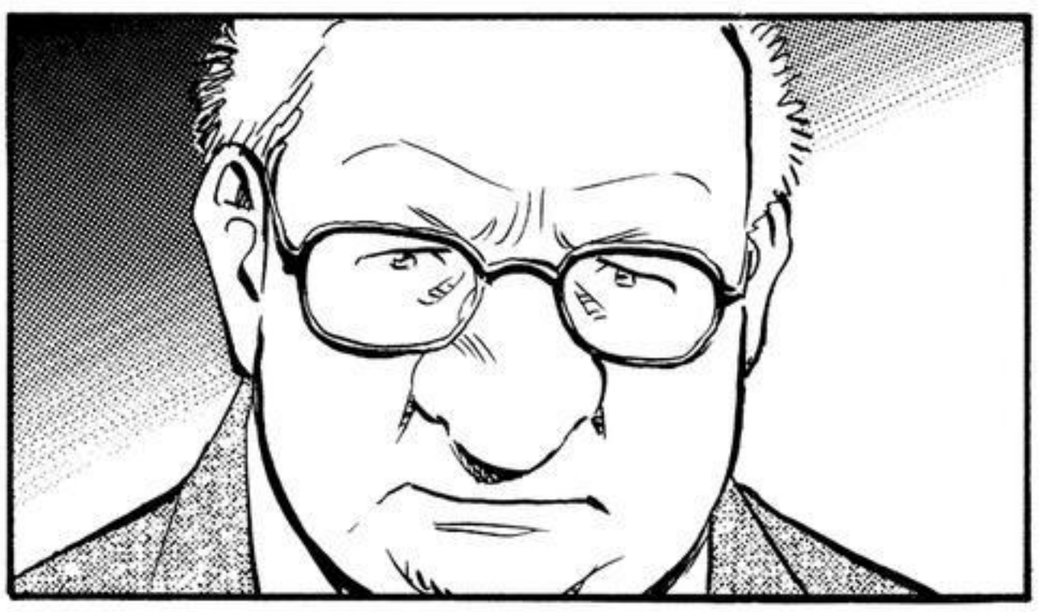

THERE'S ONLY ONE PRECEDENT FOR A ROBOT COMMITTING MURDER...
AND THAT'S THE CASE OF BRAU 1589.

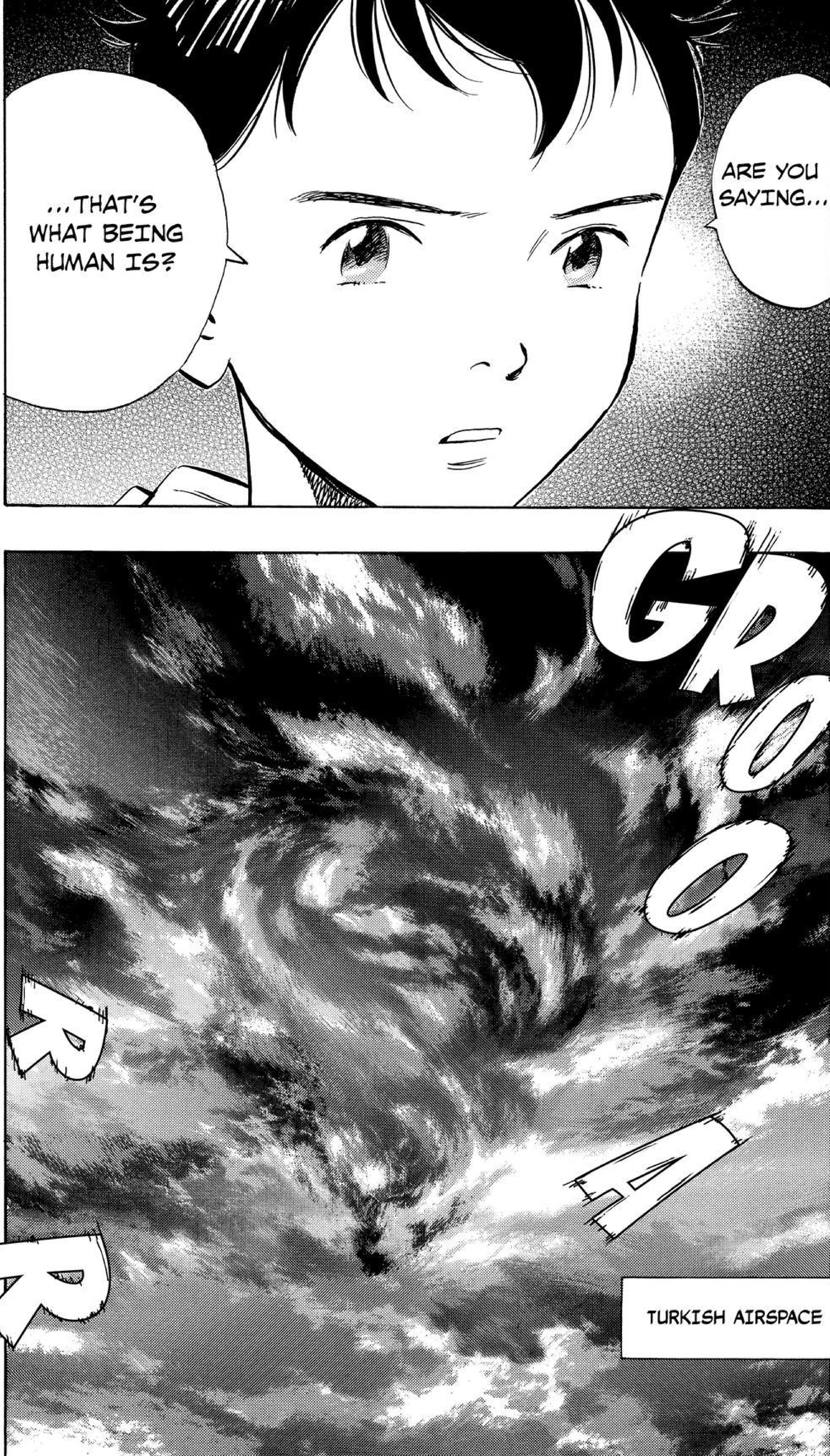
I WAS JUST WONDERING WHERE THE DEFECT WAS IN THE AI OF BRAU 1589...


WELL...

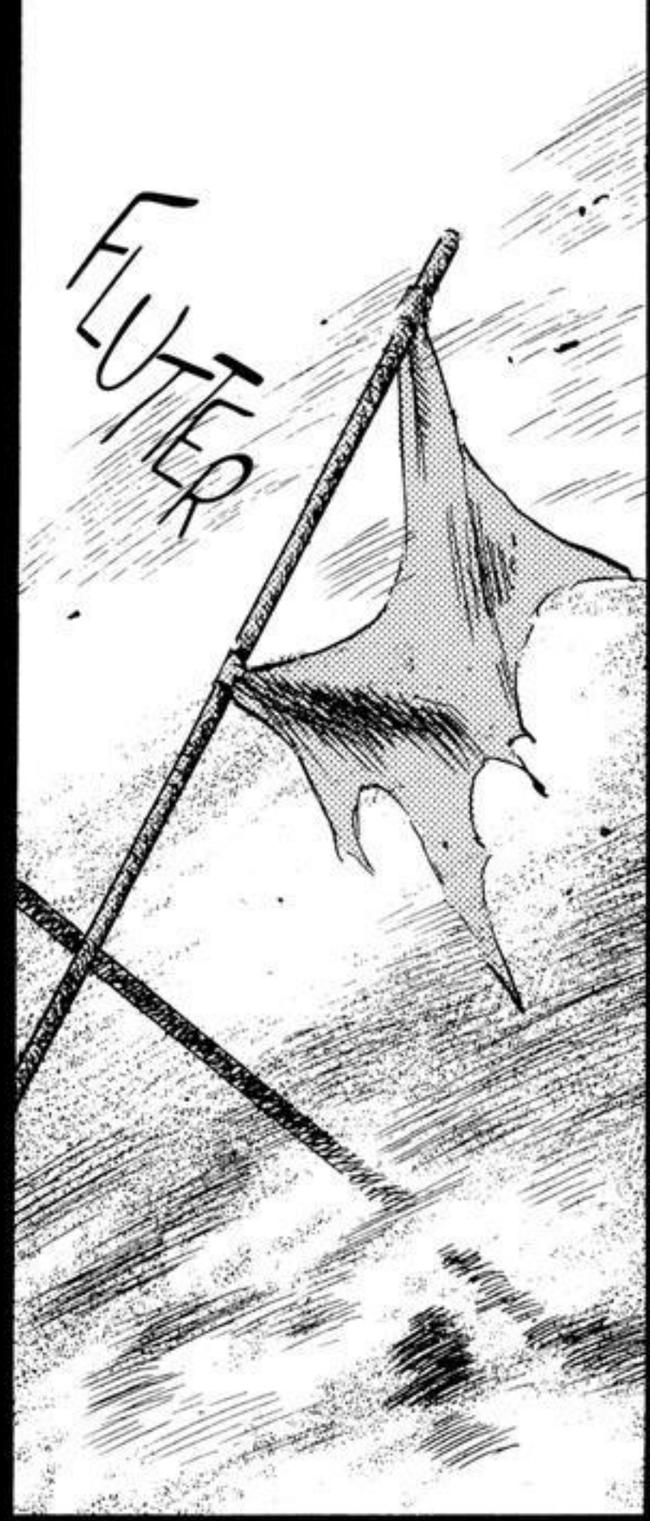
HE WAS *PERFECT*...

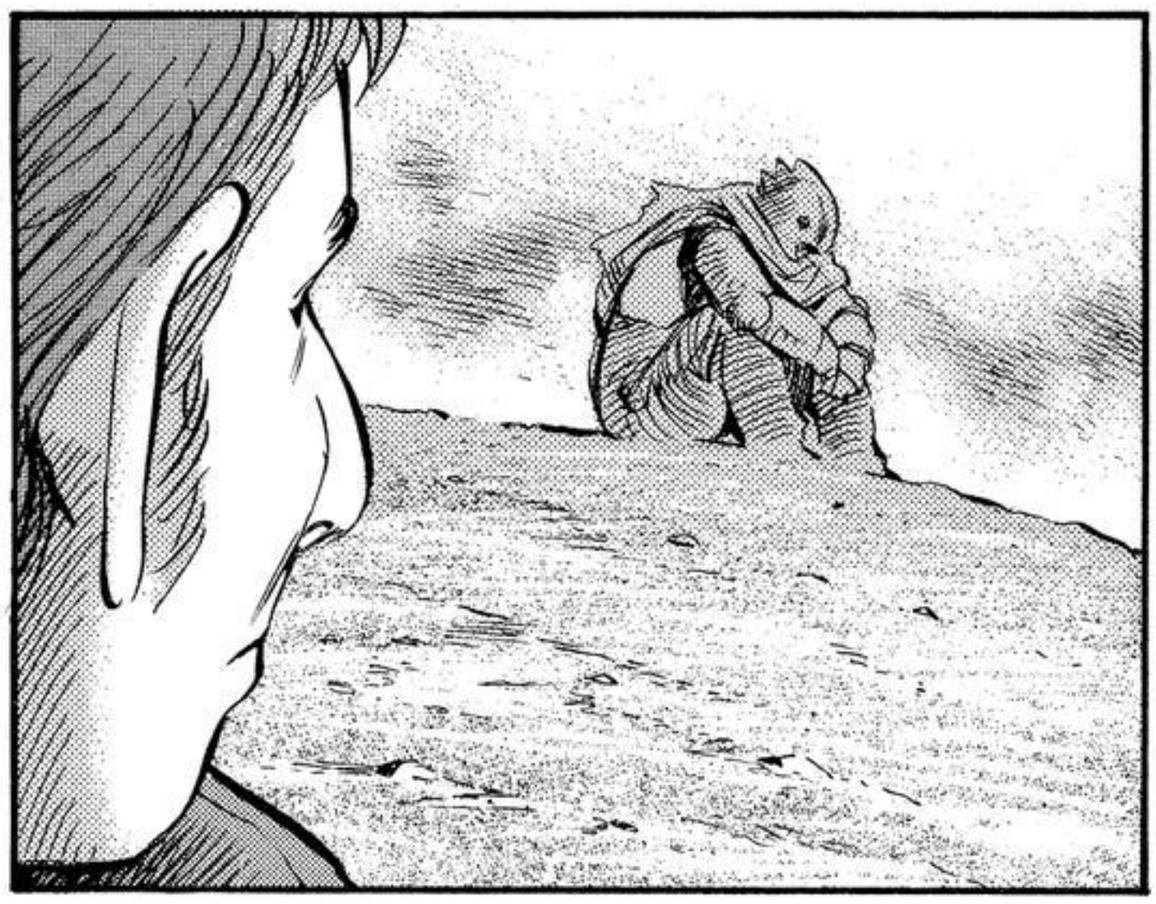
THERE WAS NO DEFECT...



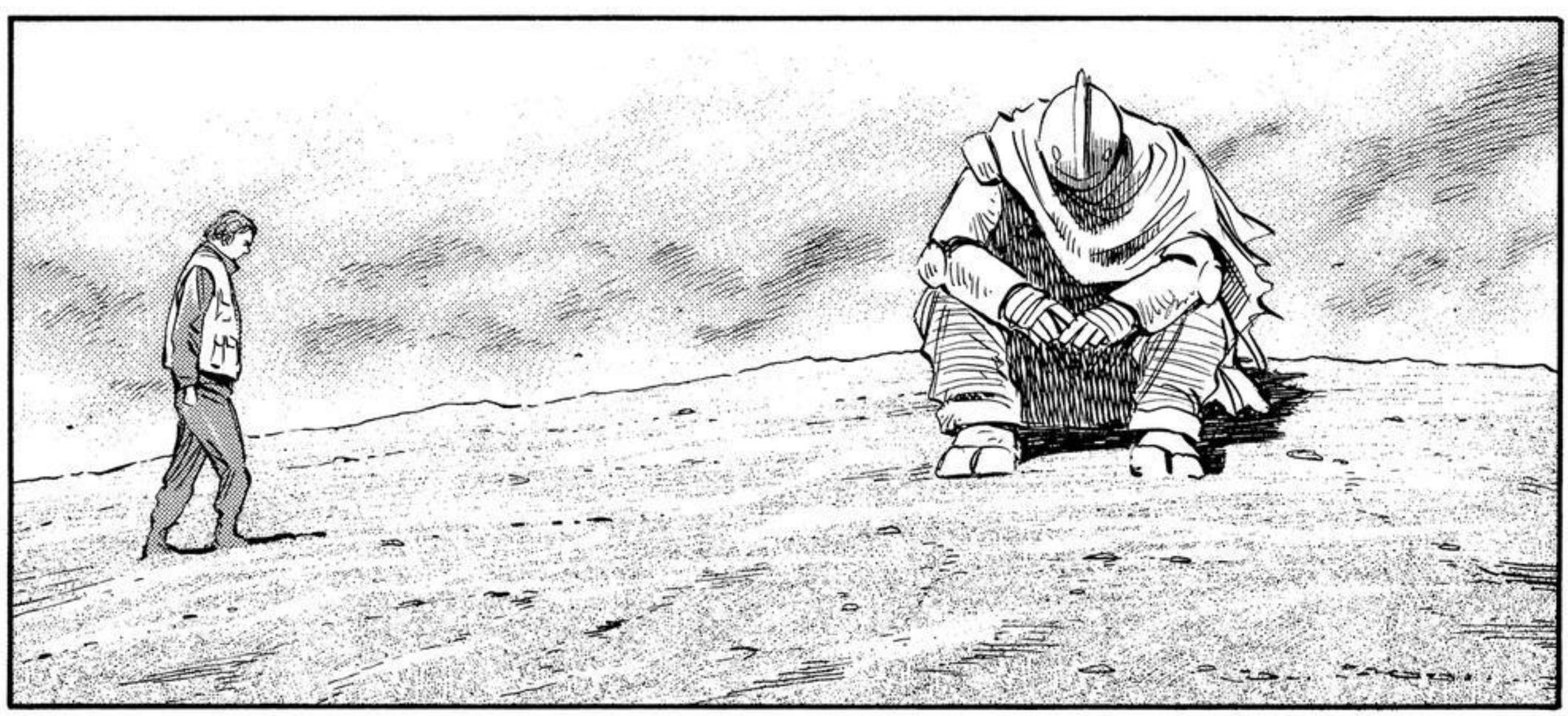

ARE YOU SAYING...
...THAT'S WHAT BEING HUMAN IS?
GROOARR
TURKISH AIRSPACE

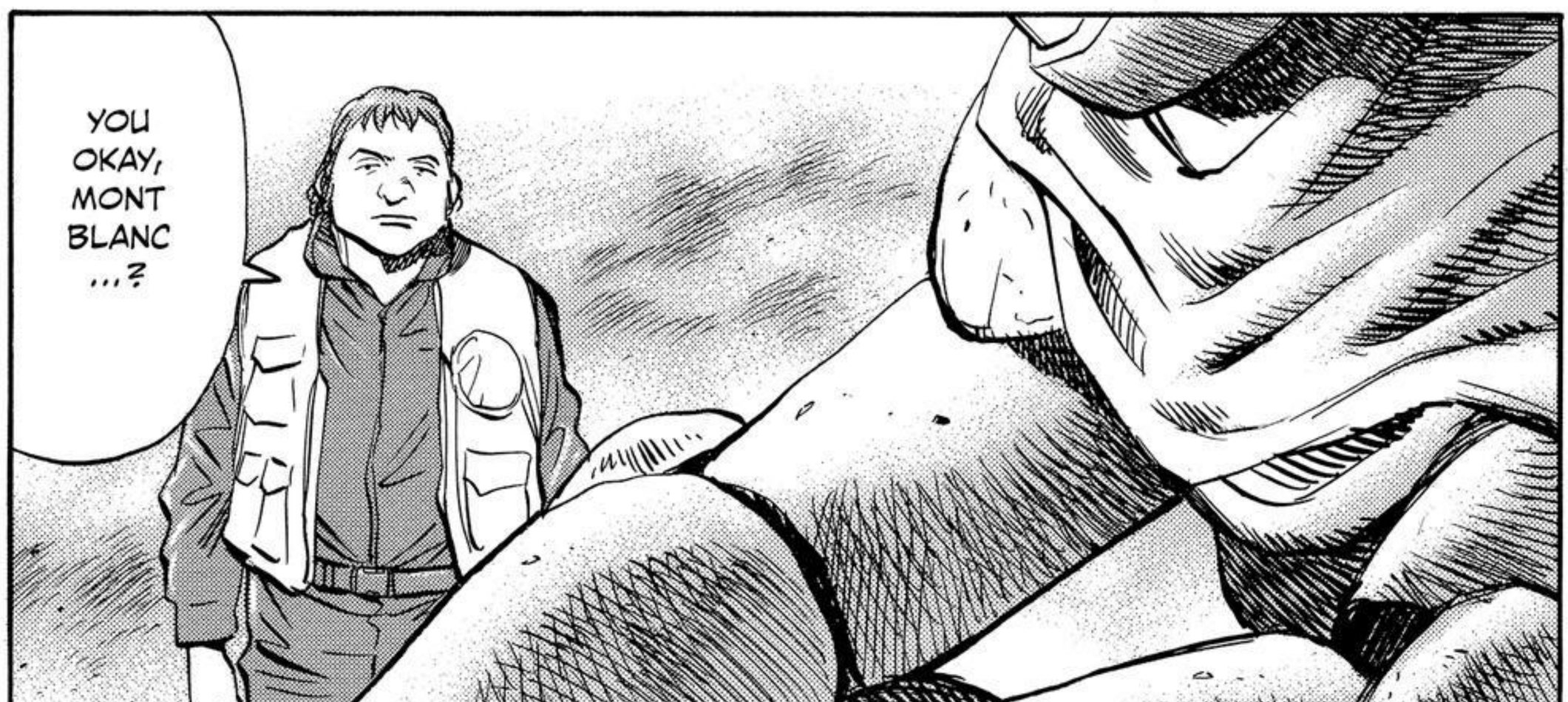
Act 11 PATCHING IN



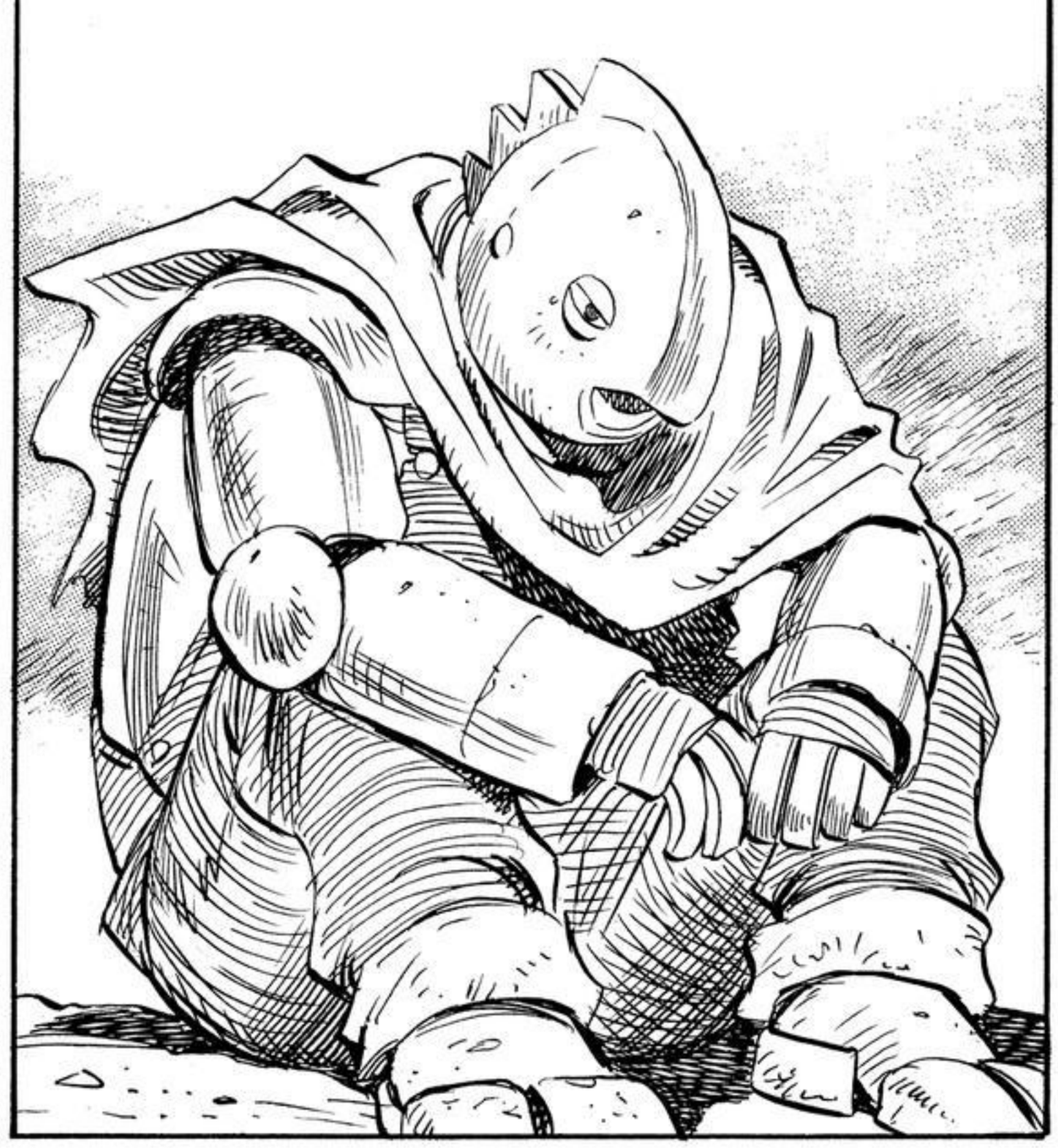


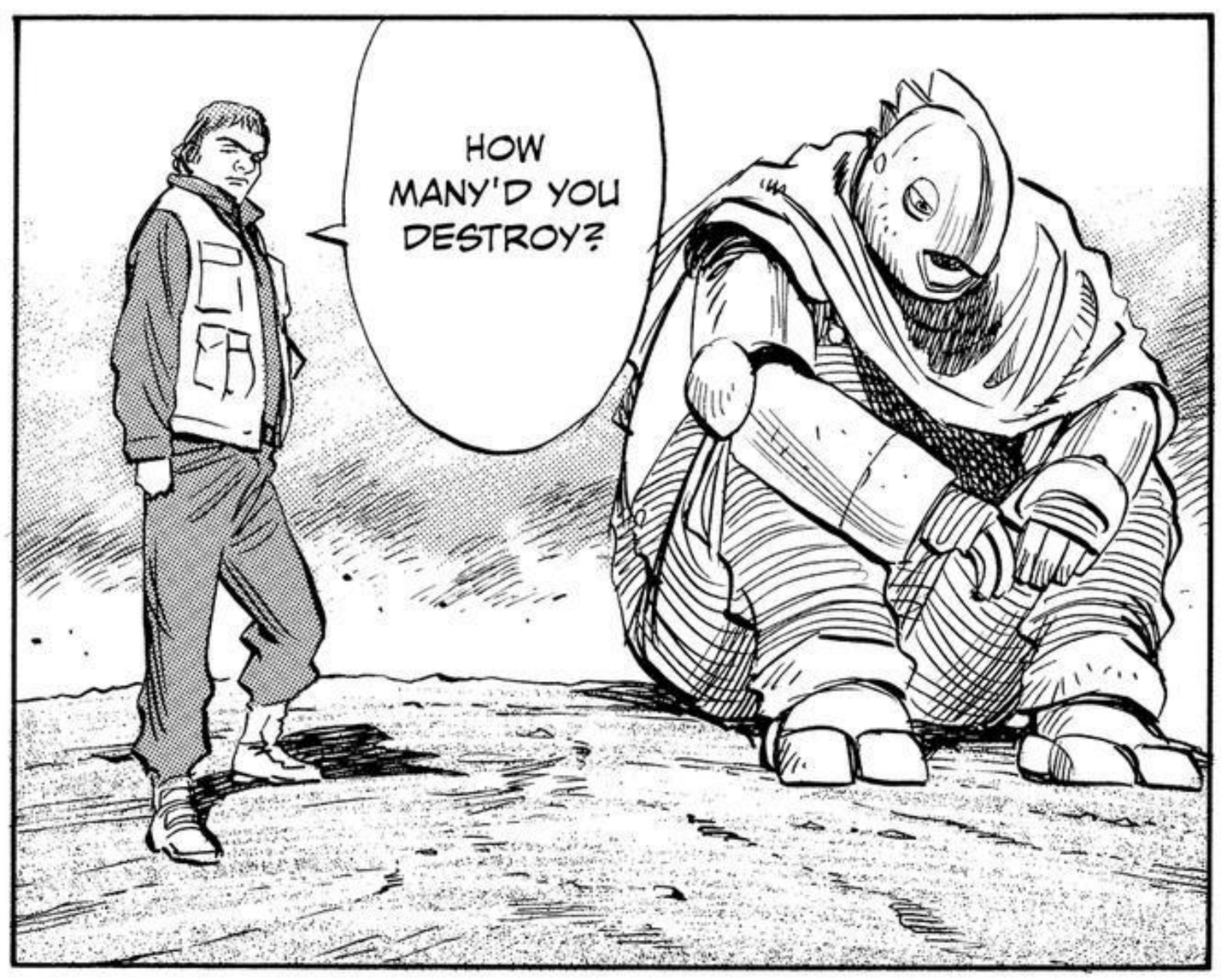
SWP

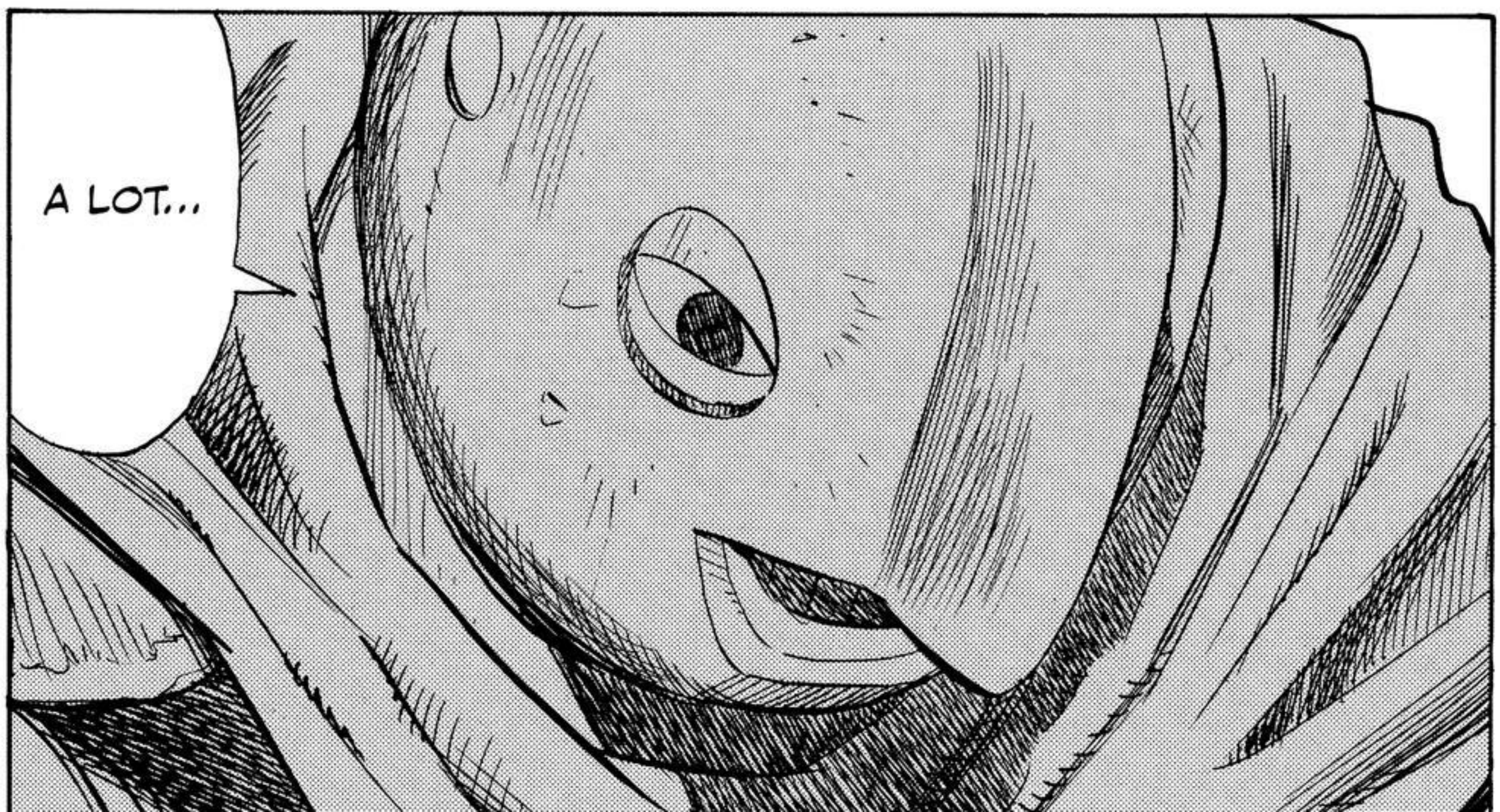



YOU OKAY, MONT BLANC ...?

...

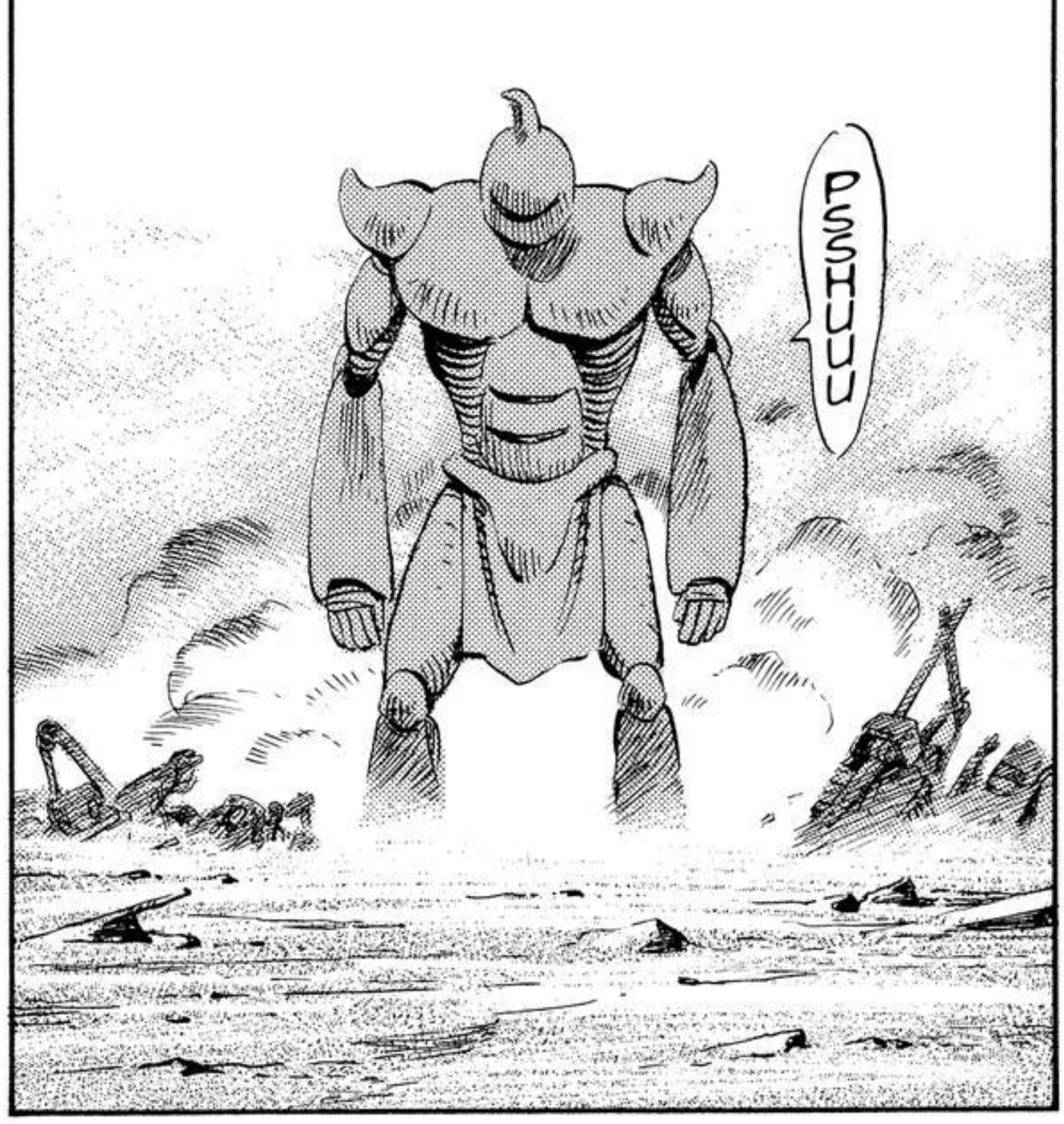



HOW MANY'D YOU DESTROY?

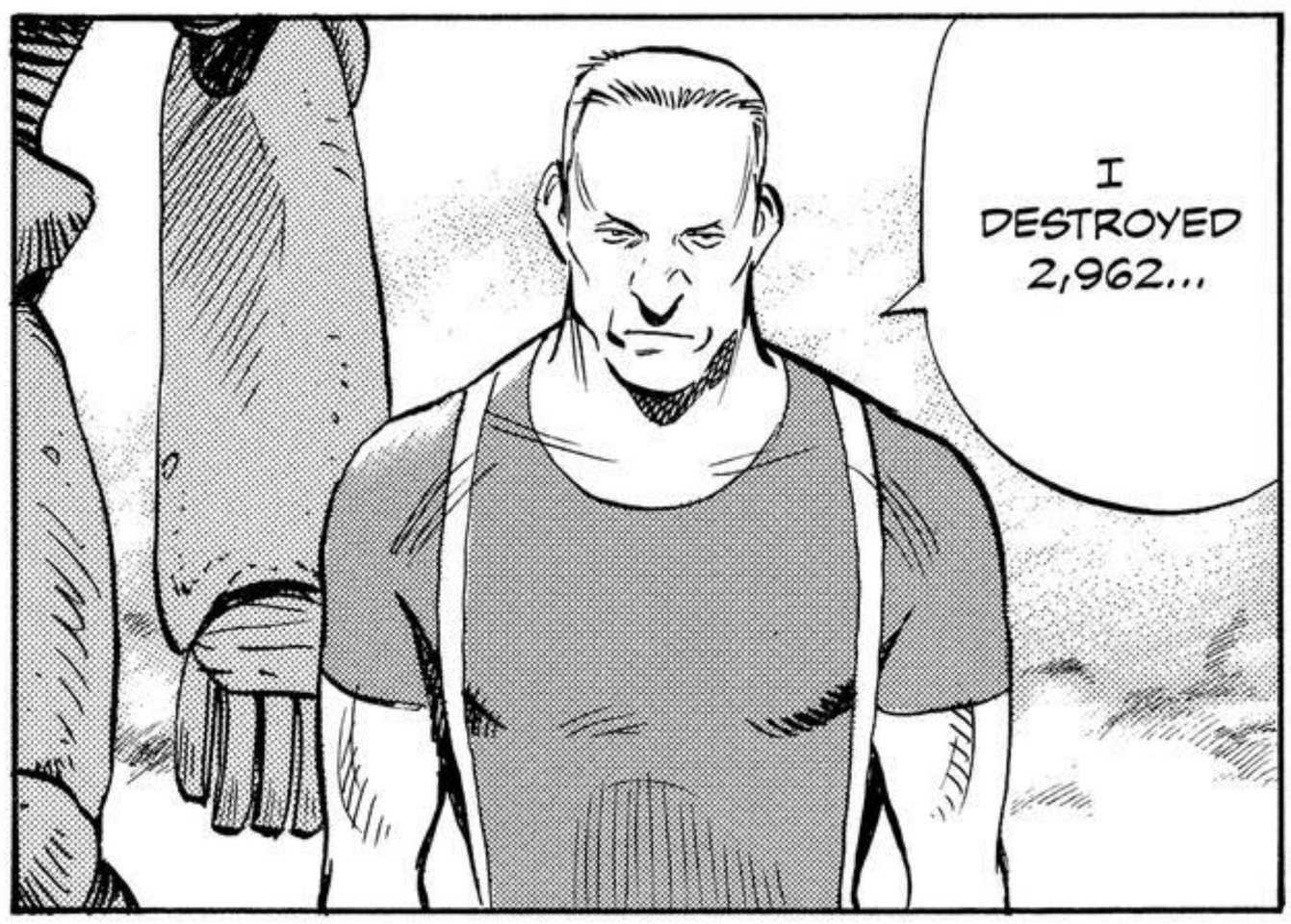

A LOT...

Act.11

回線をつなげの巻


PSHUUU

THAT'S AN UNCHARACTER-ISTICALLY VAGUE STATEMENT FOR A ROBOT...


I DESTROYED 2,962...

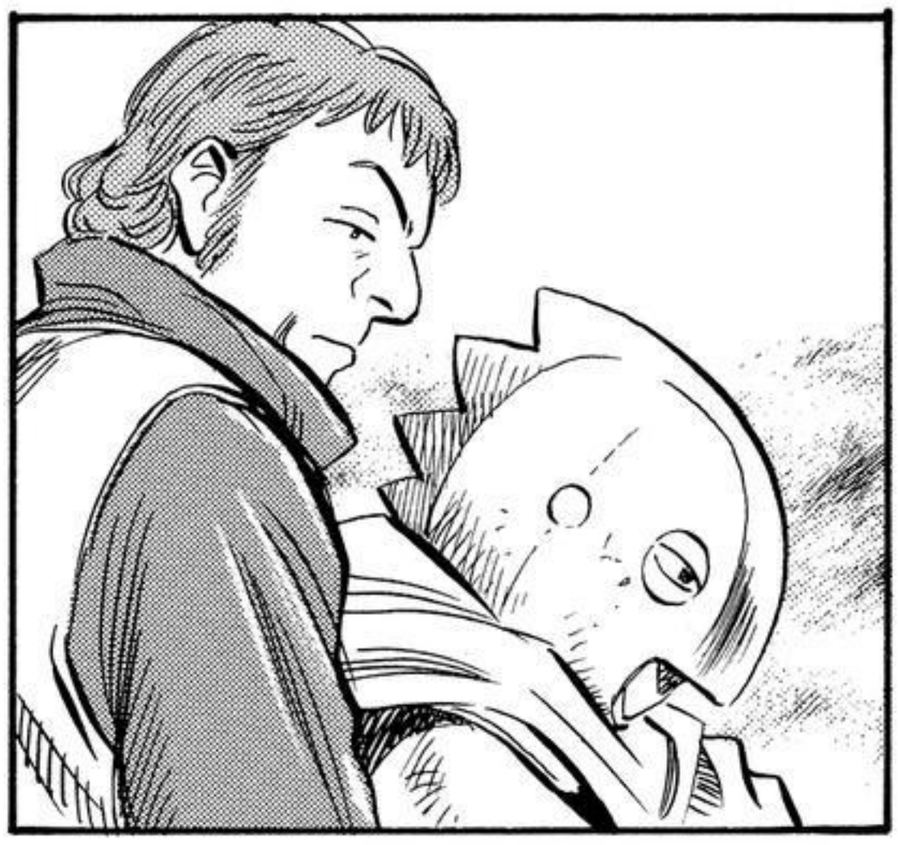
TMP

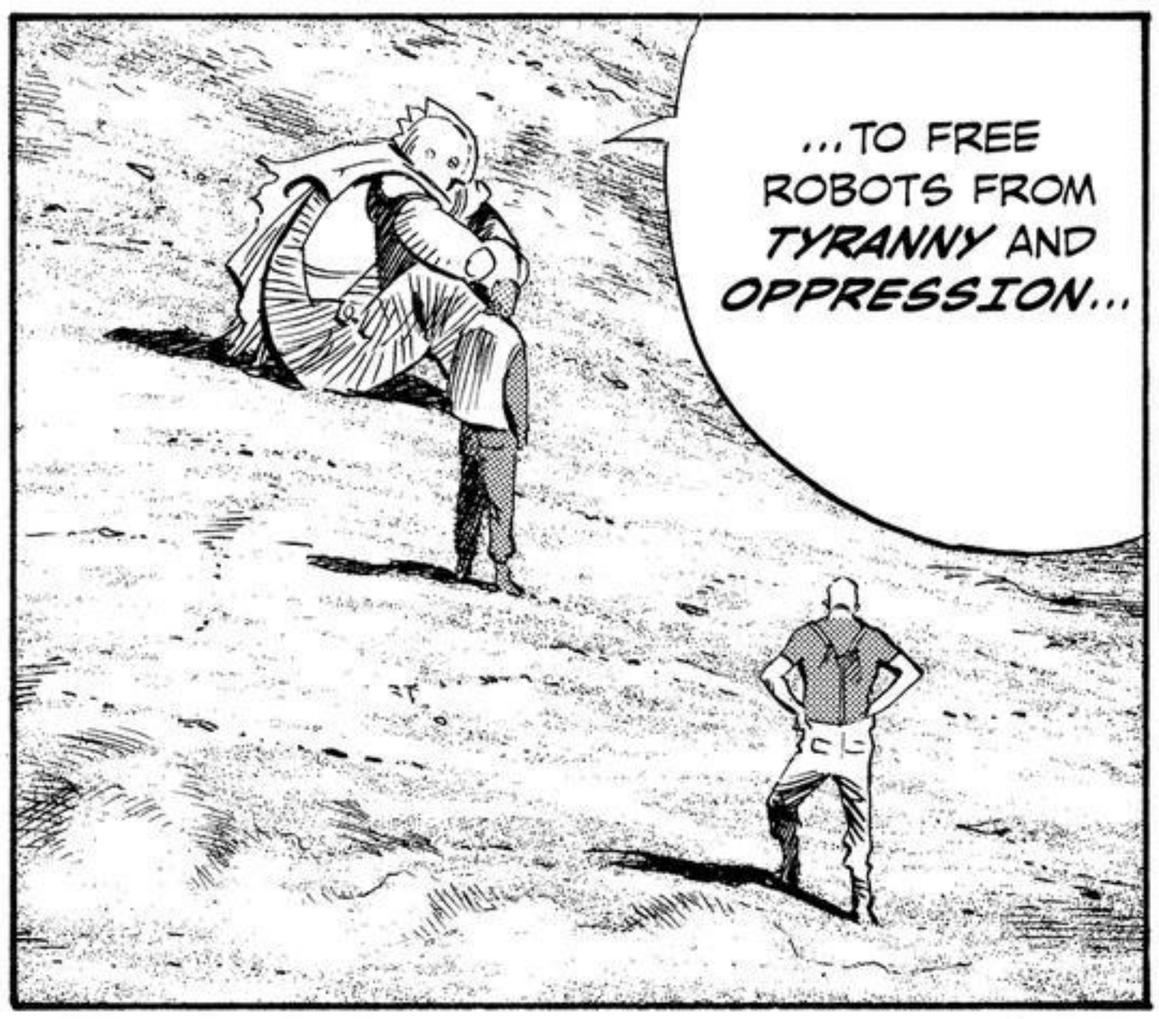
IMPRESSIVE ...
AND MONT BLANC'S TOTAL WAS 3,022...

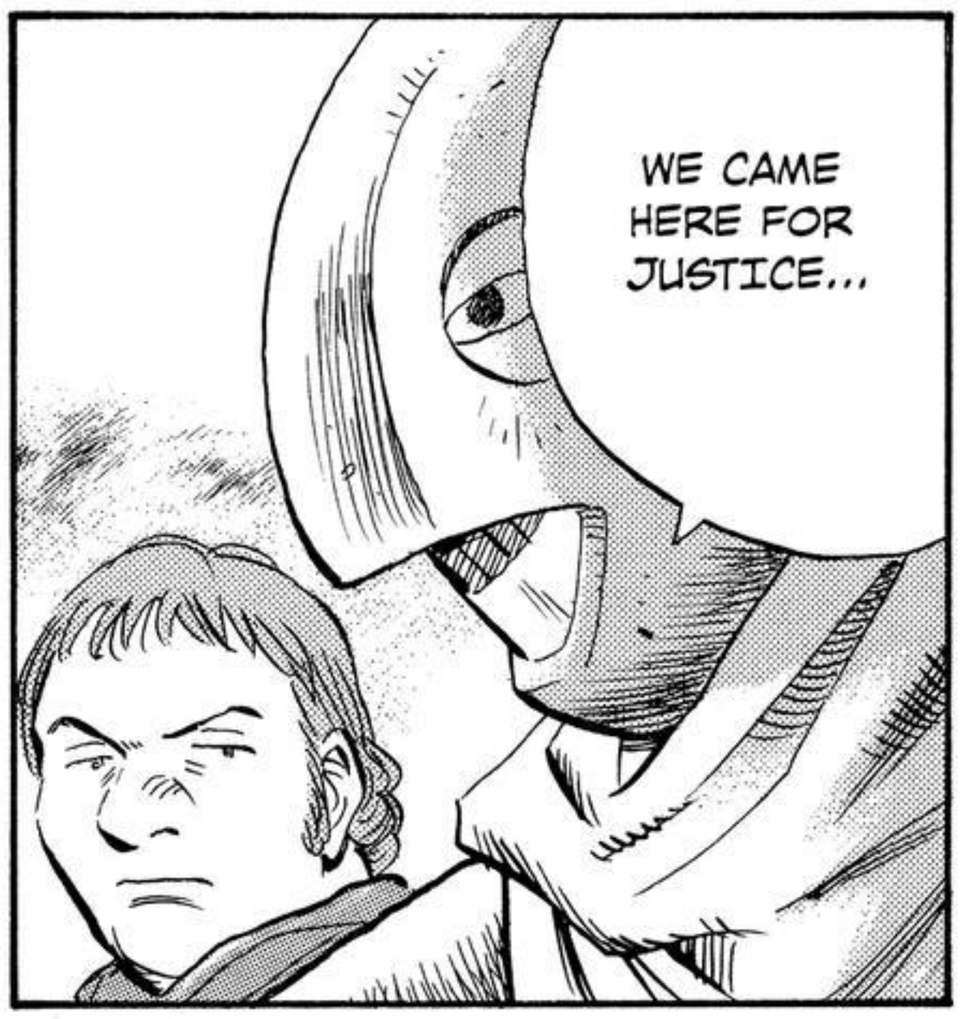
HERCULES ...

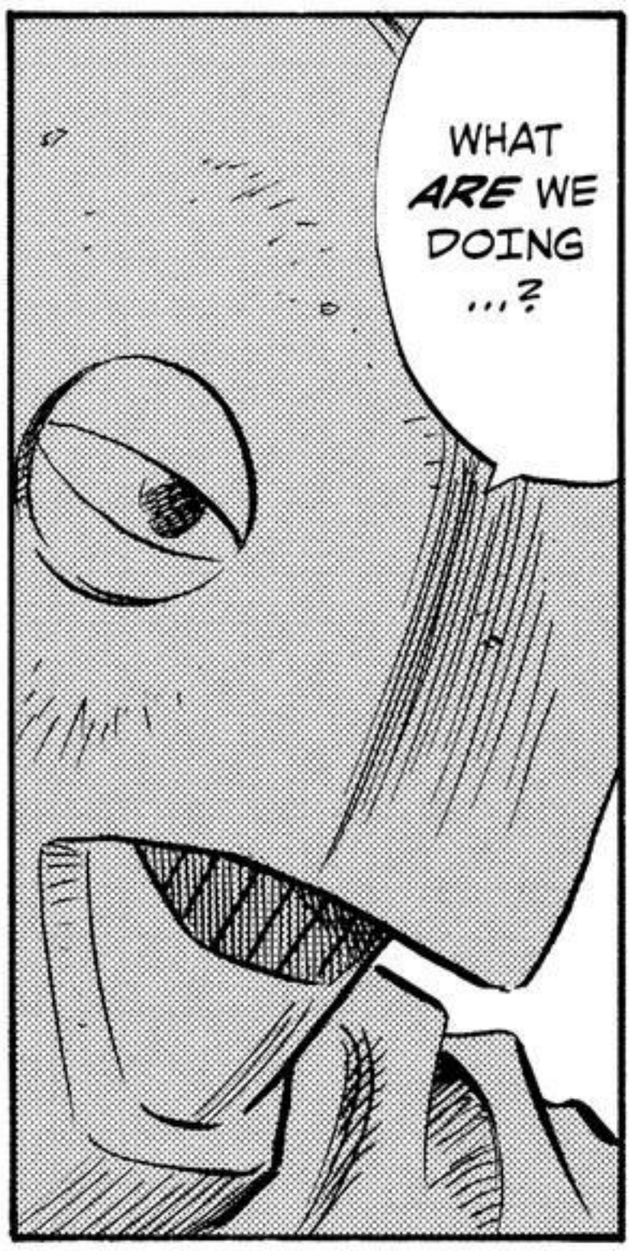
I GOT YOU DOWN FOR 2,895, BRANDO...

JUST WHAT ARE WE DOING, ANYWAY...?

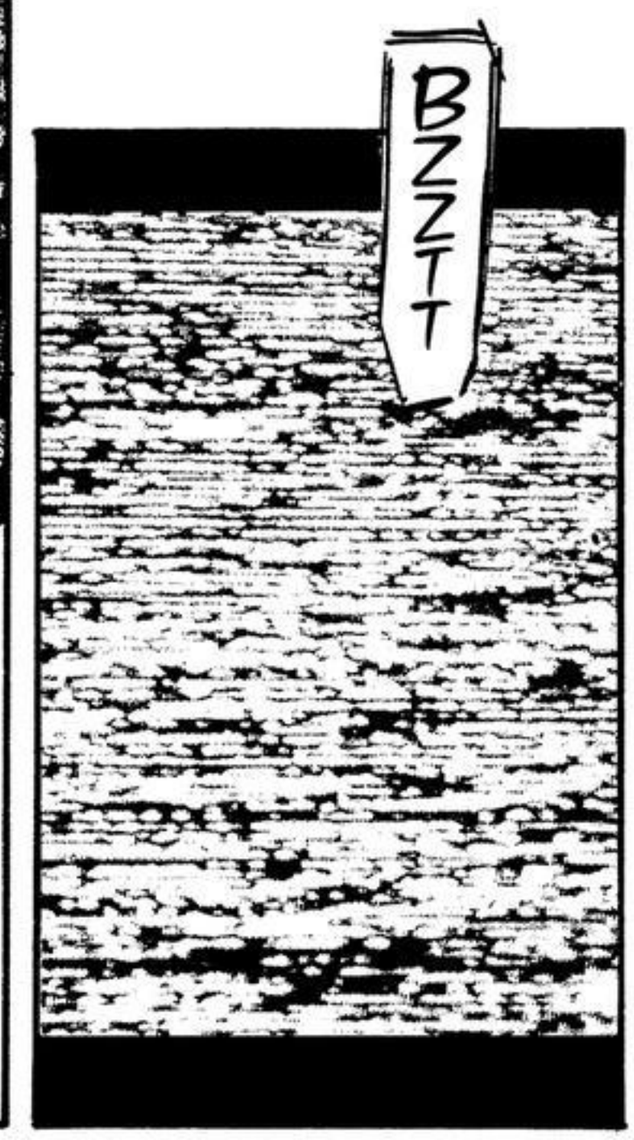


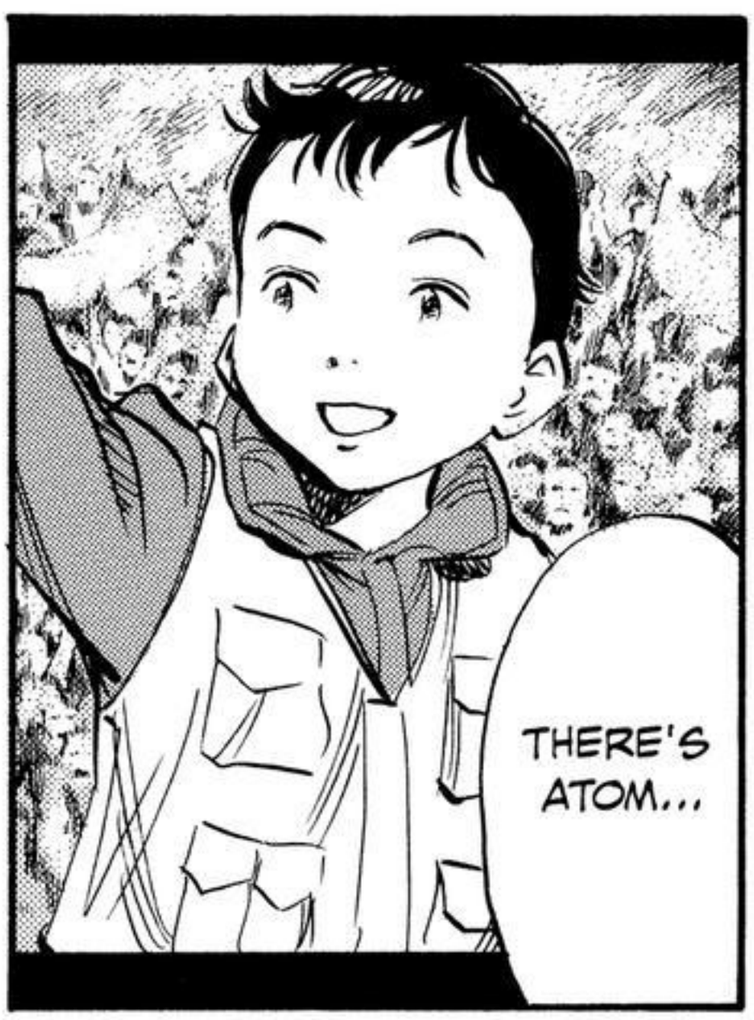


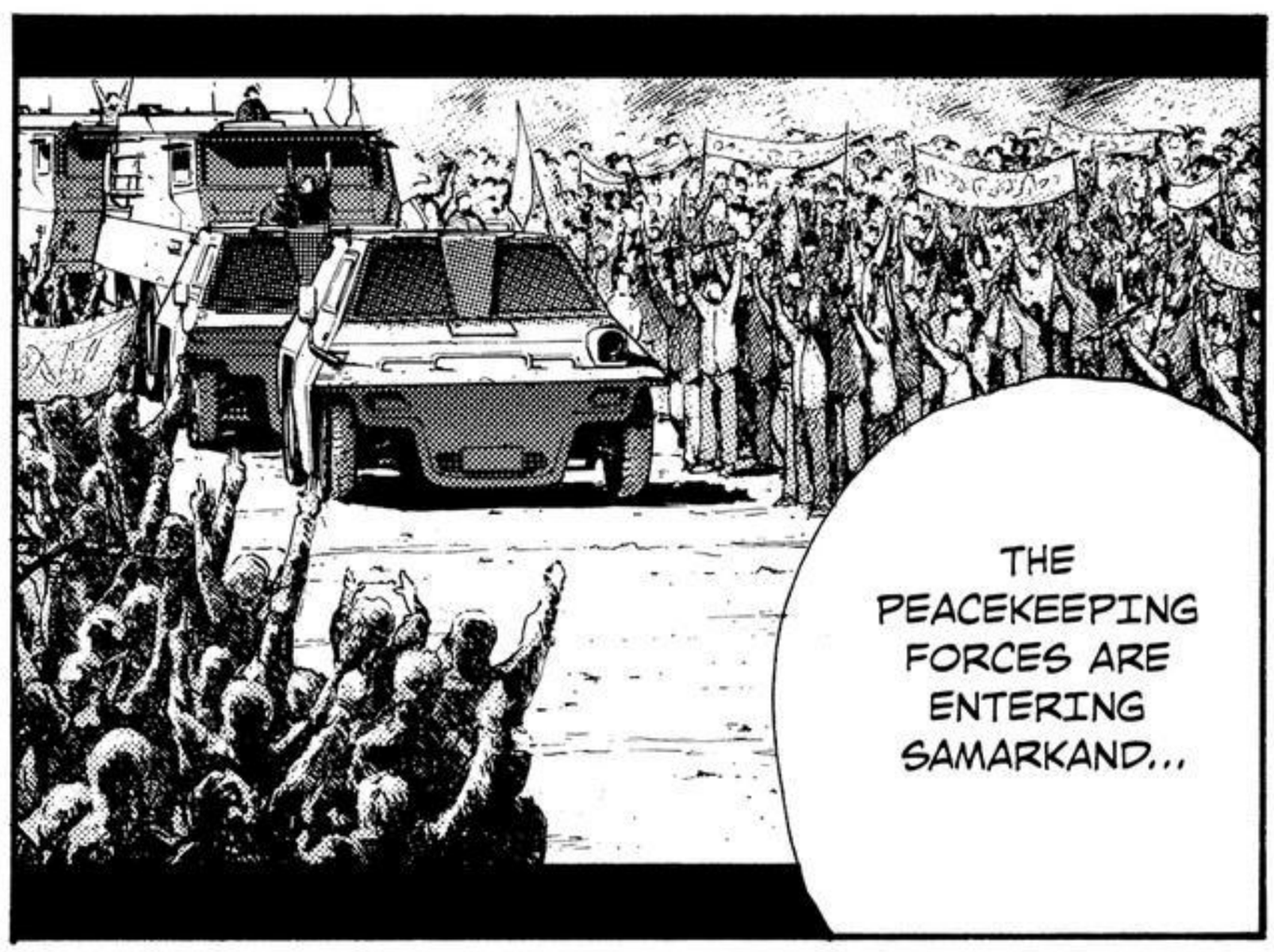




THE PALACE OF DARIUS XIV IS ABOUT TO FALL...

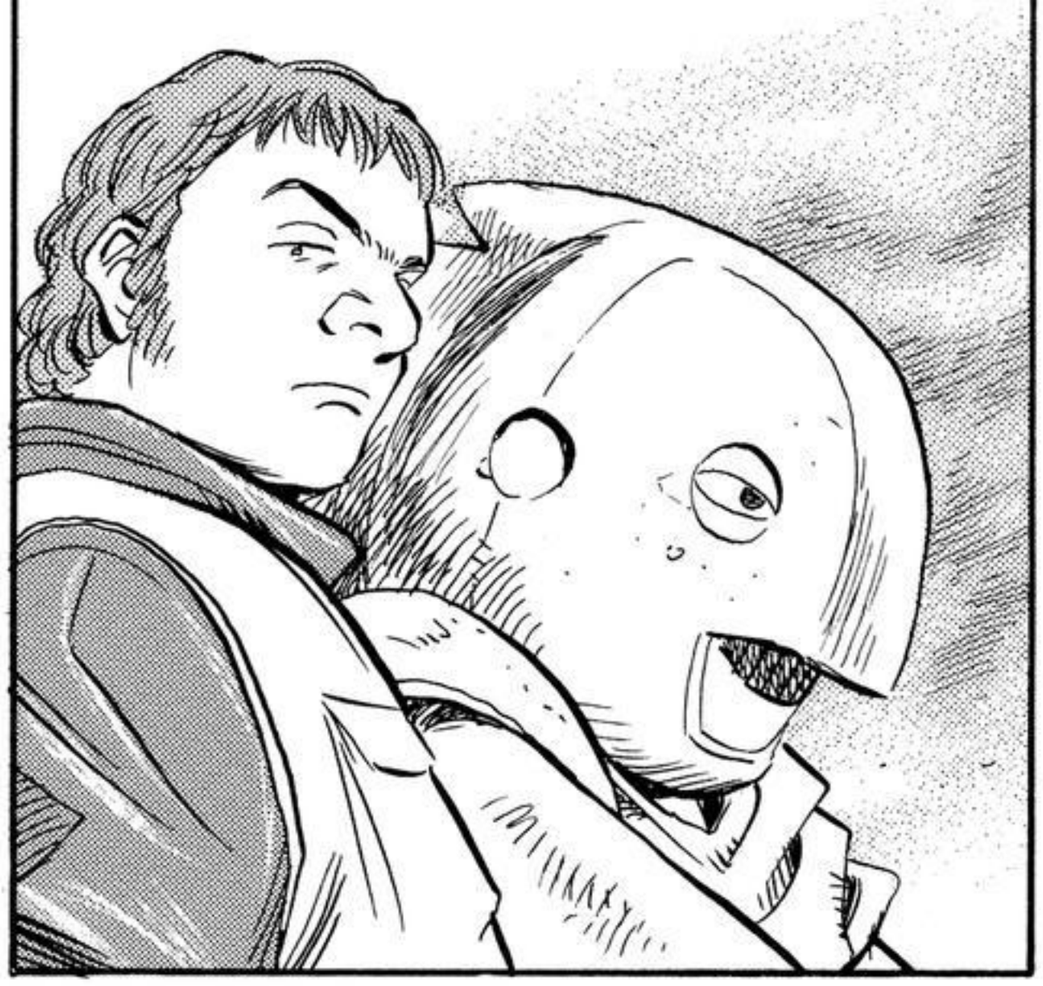

BZZTT


THERE'S ATOM...


THE PEACEKEEPING FORCES ARE ENTERING SAMARKAND...

WHAT ARE WE DOING HERE?

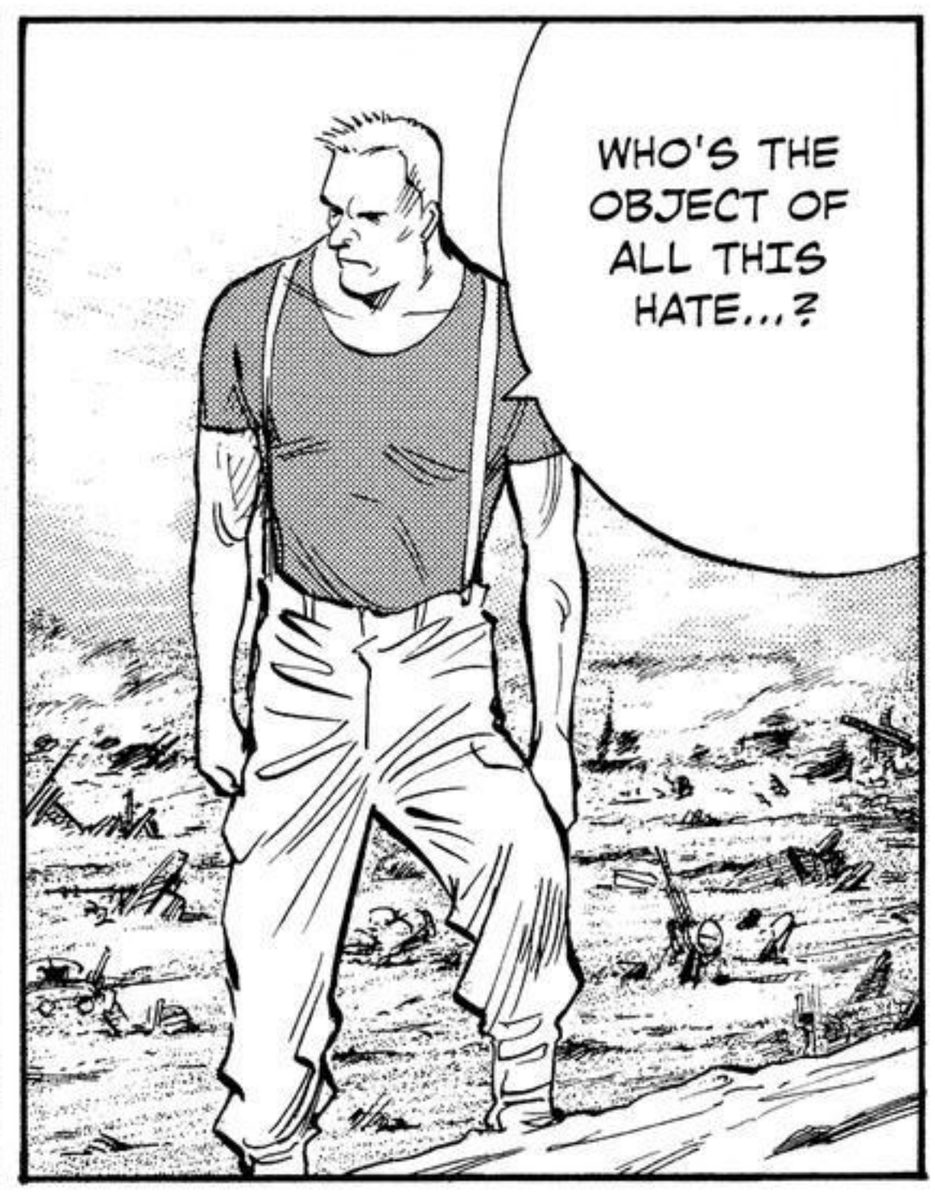
HE'S GOT IT EASY...
THE "EMMISARY OF PEACE," EH?

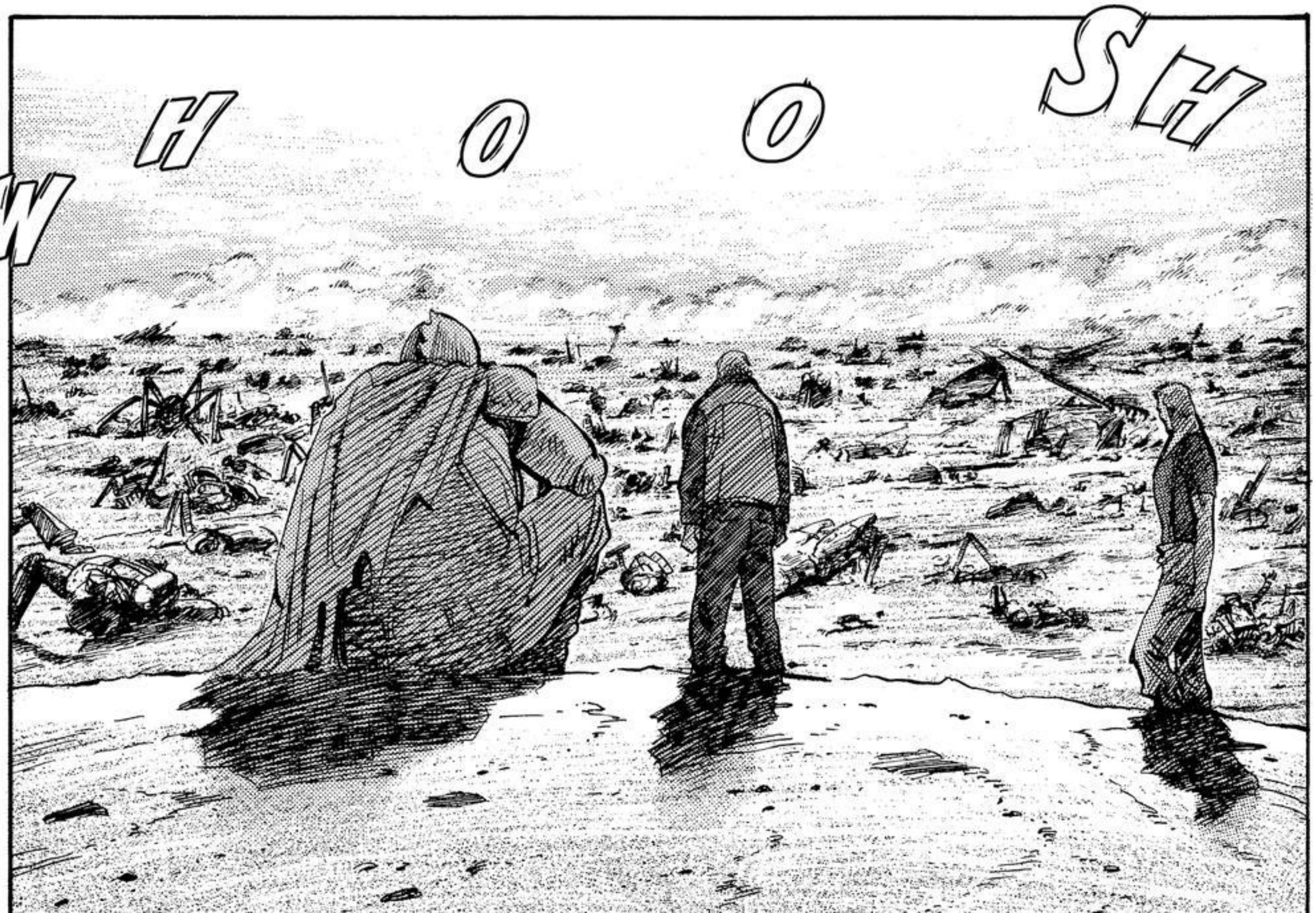


JUST WHO WAS IT WE WERE SUPPOSED TO REALLY BE FIGHTING ANYWAY...?

HATE?

WHAT IS THIS THING THEY CALL HATE...?
YEAH... WHAT IS IT...?


WHO'S THE OBJECT OF ALL THIS HATE...?


WHOOOSH

WHOOSH

ISTANBUL,
EUROPEAN FEDERATION

YOU PROMISED US A *LONG TIME AGO*!!

YEAH... YOU CAN'T CHANGE YOUR MIND NOW!

YOU *PROMISED* YOU'D COME WITH US TO THE ZOO!!

HOW COME, DADDY?!

ENOUGH COMPLAINING! NOW HURRY UP AND GET READY!

I'M TAKING YOU.

SOME WORK'S COME UP THAT I'VE GOTTA TAKE CARE OF.

SORRY, KIDS...

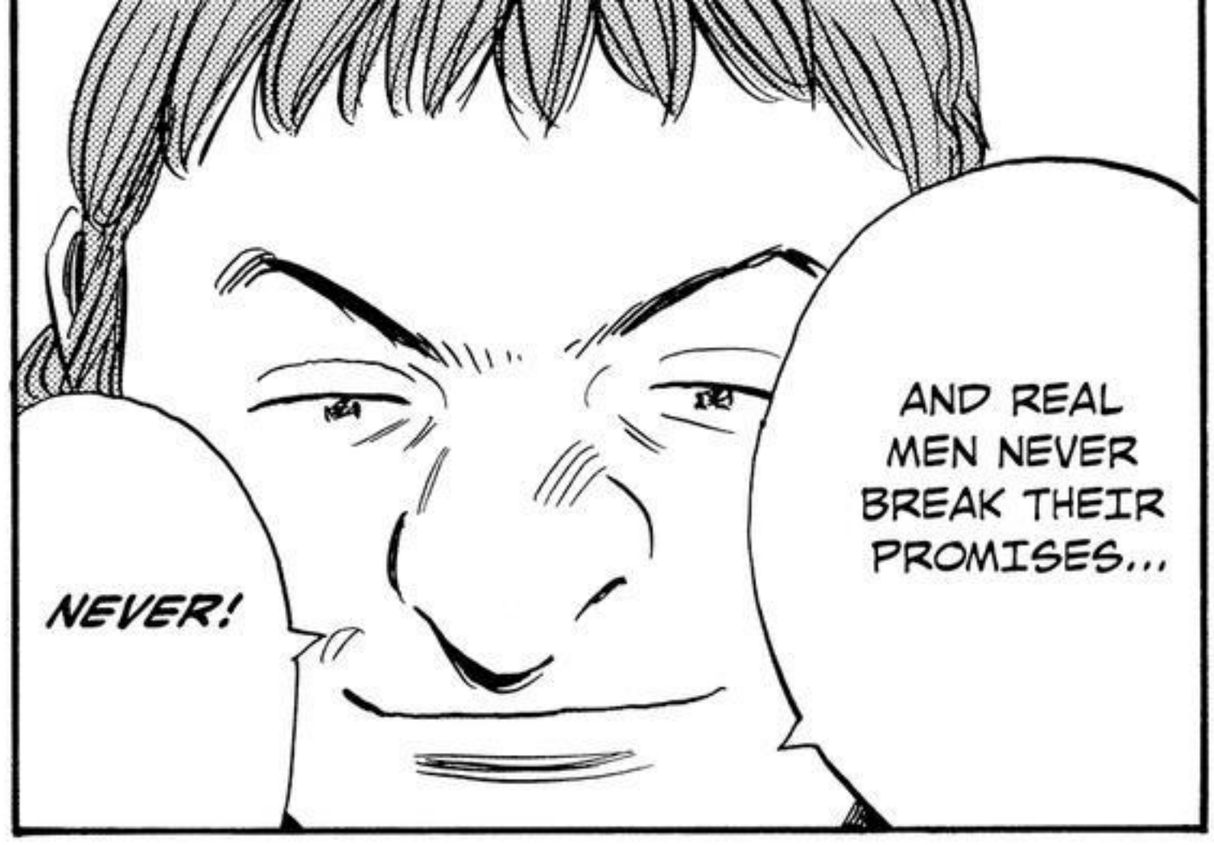
WHAT?!!

BUT YOU'LL JUST BREAK YOUR PROMISE AGAIN!!

I'LL TAKE YOU NEXT TIME. I *PROMISE*!

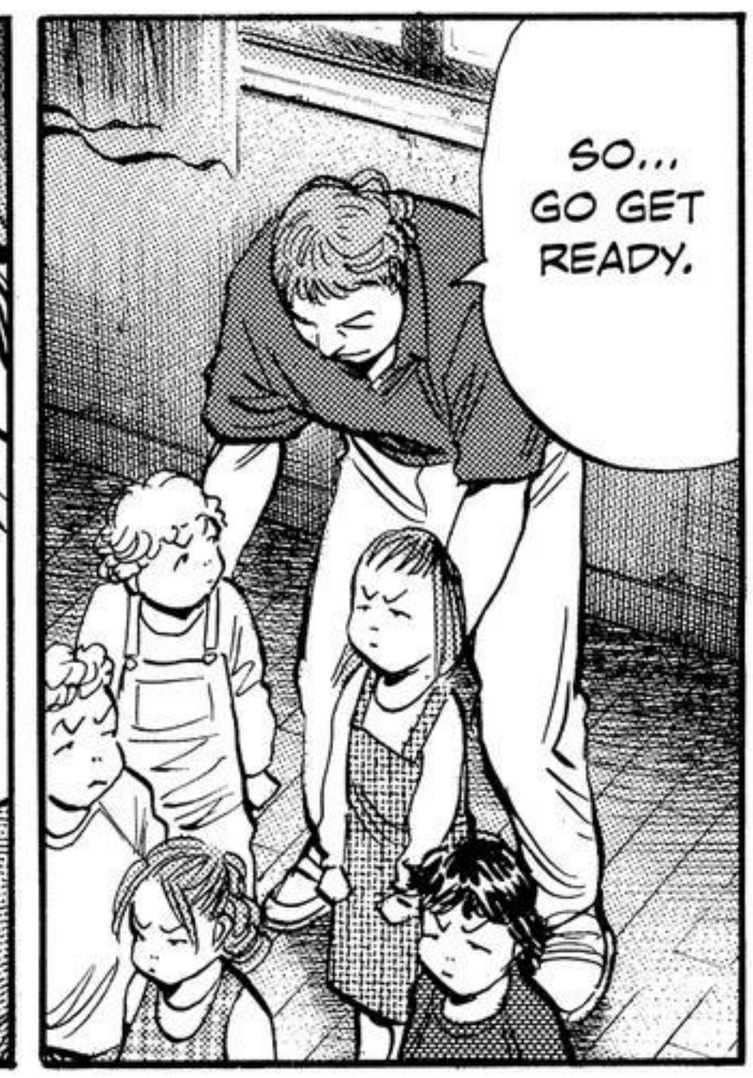
I KNOW. I KNOW...

DADDY, YOU'RE A *LIAR*!!


AND REAL MEN NEVER BREAK THEIR PROMISES...
NEVER!

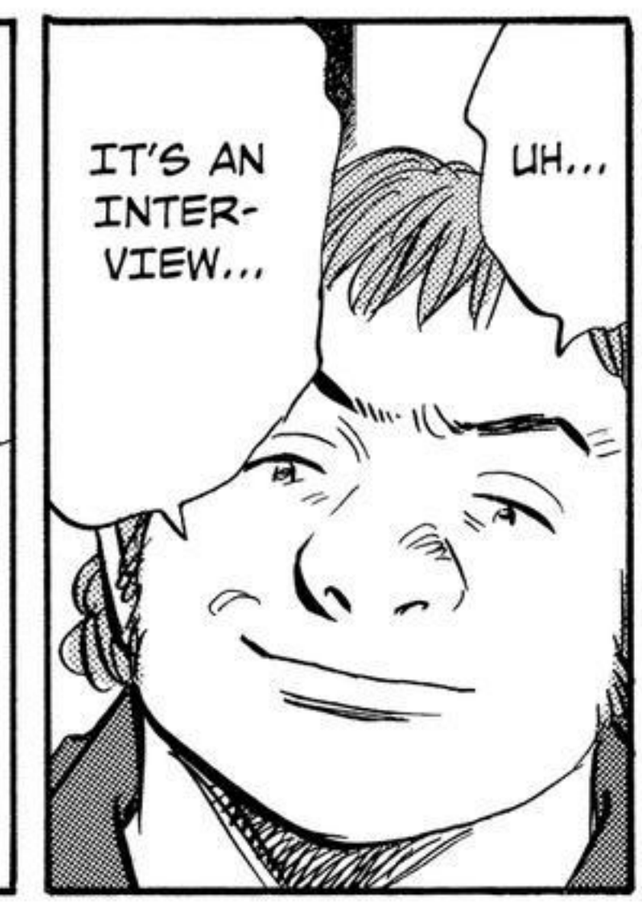
NO, I'M TELLING YOU THIS IS A PROMISE!

SO WHAT'S COME UP? GET AN E-MAIL ABOUT A JOB?


SO... GO GET READY.

MISS ISTANBUL?
YEAH... UM... SOMETHING ABOUT A JOINT INTERVIEW TOGETHER WITH MISS ISTANBUL...

INTER-VIEW...?


IT'S AN INTER-VIEW...
UH...

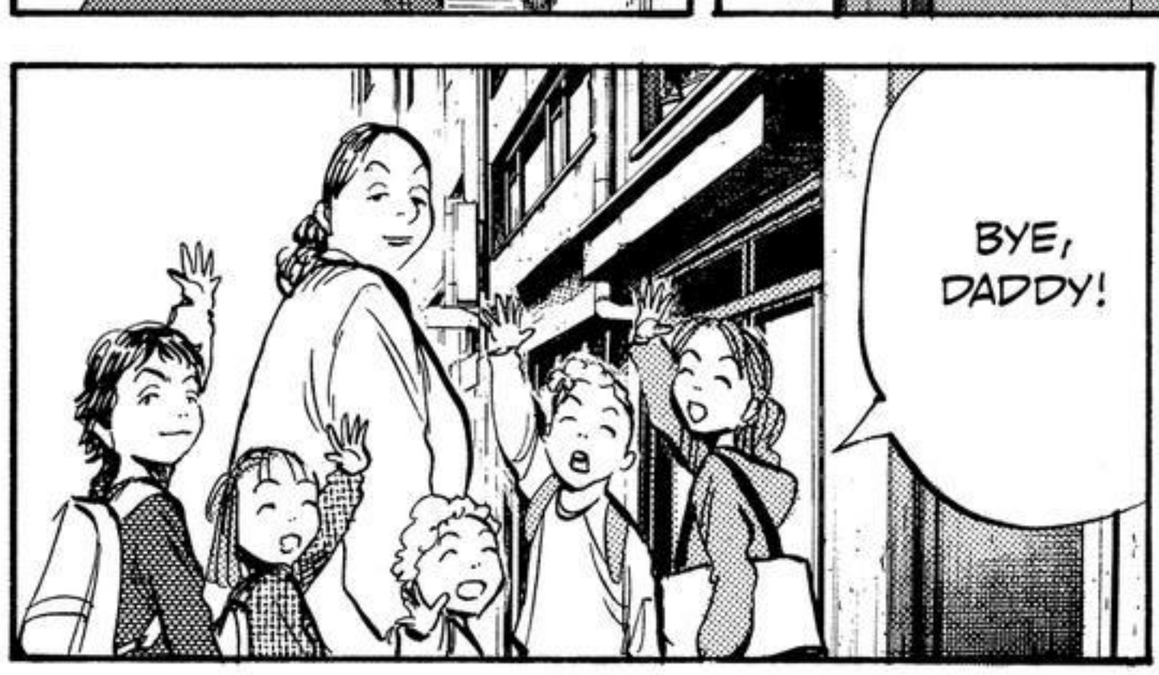
AW, COME ON NOW...
WELL, I HOPE YOU HAVE YOURSELF A NICE *INTER-VIEW*!

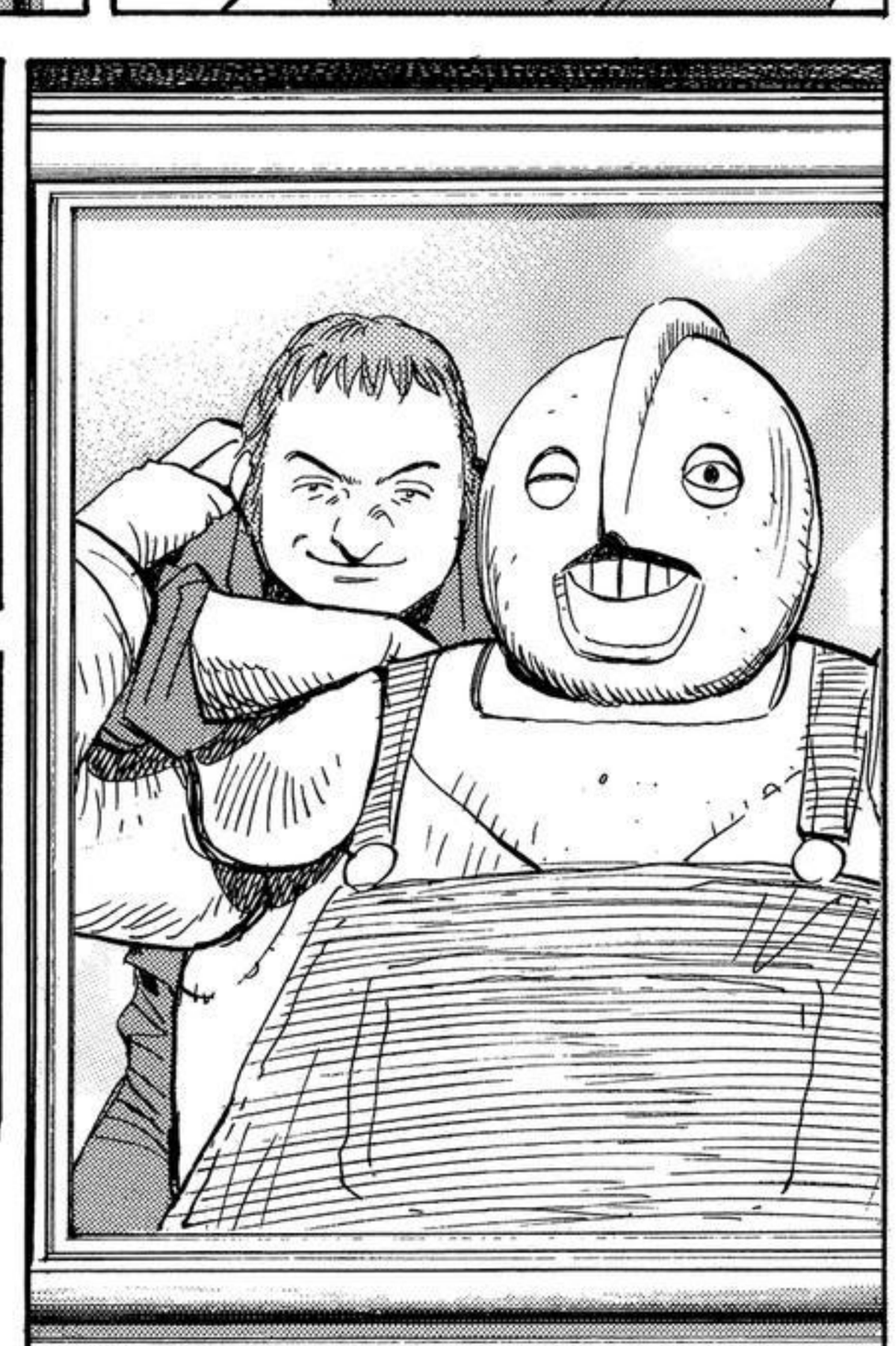
I CAN'T GET OUT OF IT... I OWE THIS EDITOR...
HEY...

...

SLAM

YOUR HUSBAND'S THE EUROPEAN CHAMPION... I'VE GOT *OBLIGATIONS* ...
HONEY ...


BYE, DADDY!



GRO
AR

NOW THEN...

VRMM

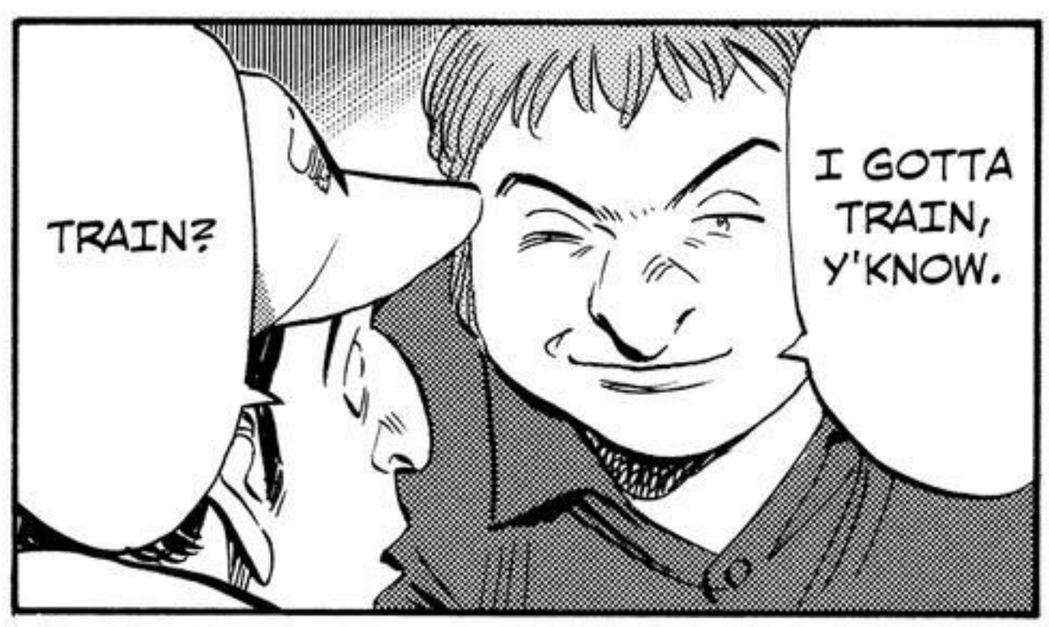
VWP

BLUE MOSQUE
COLISEUM

NO ONE'S ALLOWED TO TAKE THE SUITS OUT WITHOUT *SPECIAL PERMISSION*...
UM, ER... THAT'D BE TOUGH, SIR...

YEAH, AND I'LL NEED A CARGO TRUCK TOO.

BUT, SIR...
COME ON, PAL... JUST THIS ONCE!


TRAIN?
I GOTTA TRAIN, Y'KNOW.

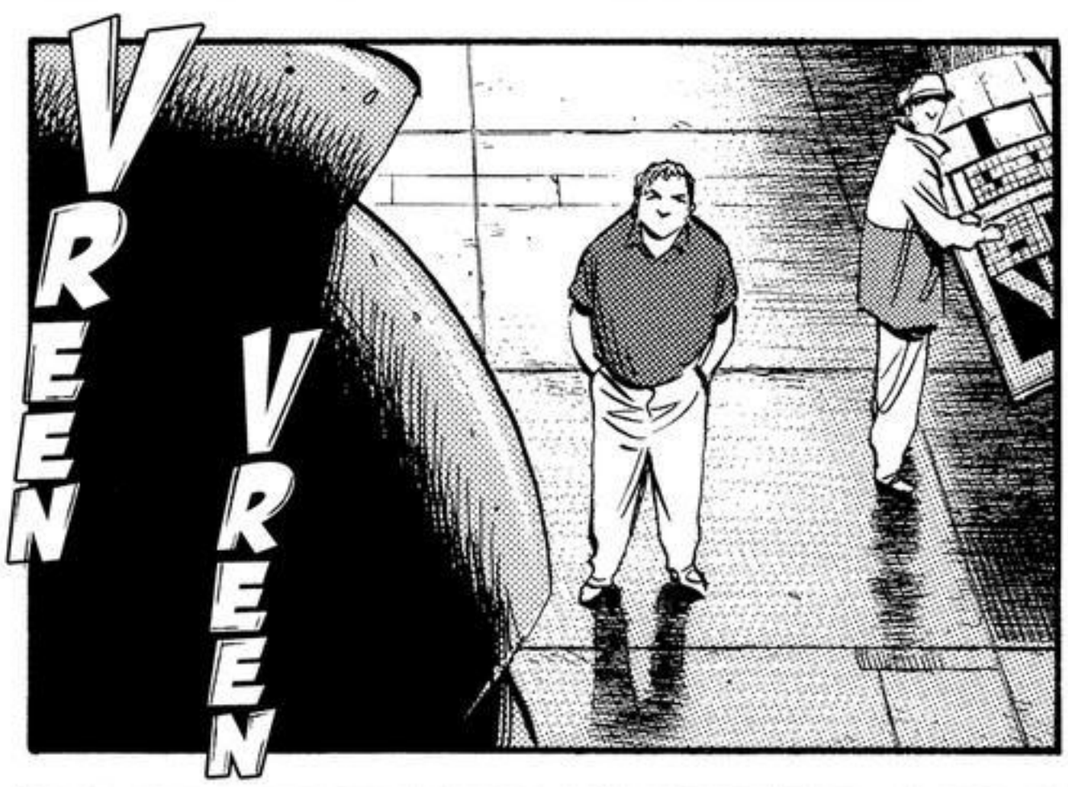
I JUST NEED IT FOR A LITTLE WHILE...
AW, COME ON... *RELAX.*
YEAH, BUT...

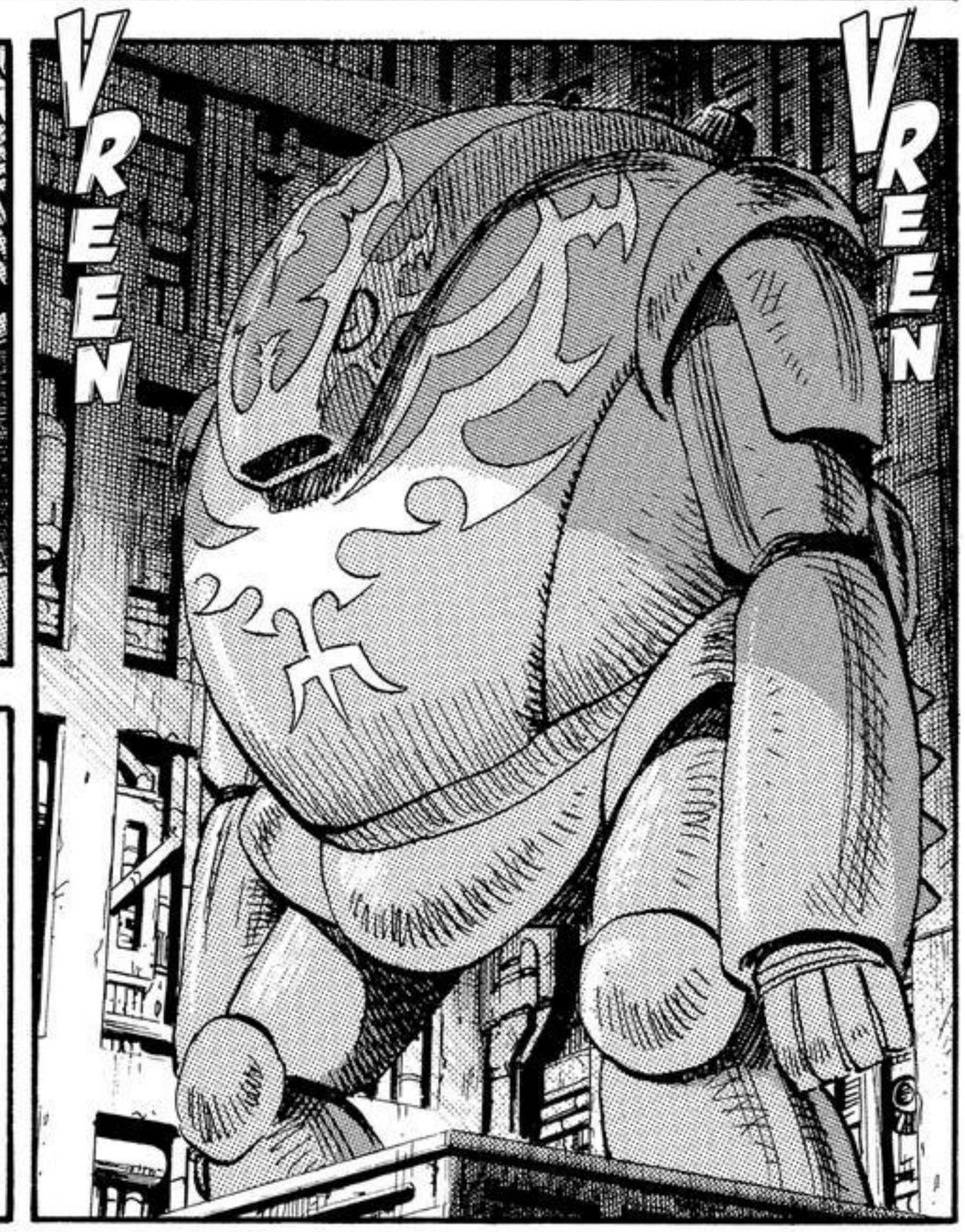
BUT I GOT AN IMAGE TO MAINTAIN, RIGHT? A CHAMP LIKE ME CAN'T BE SEEN WORKIN' OUT LIKE A DESPERATE AMATEUR...

MY NEXT MATCH IS AGAINST *HERCULES*!
YEAH! YOU KNOW...

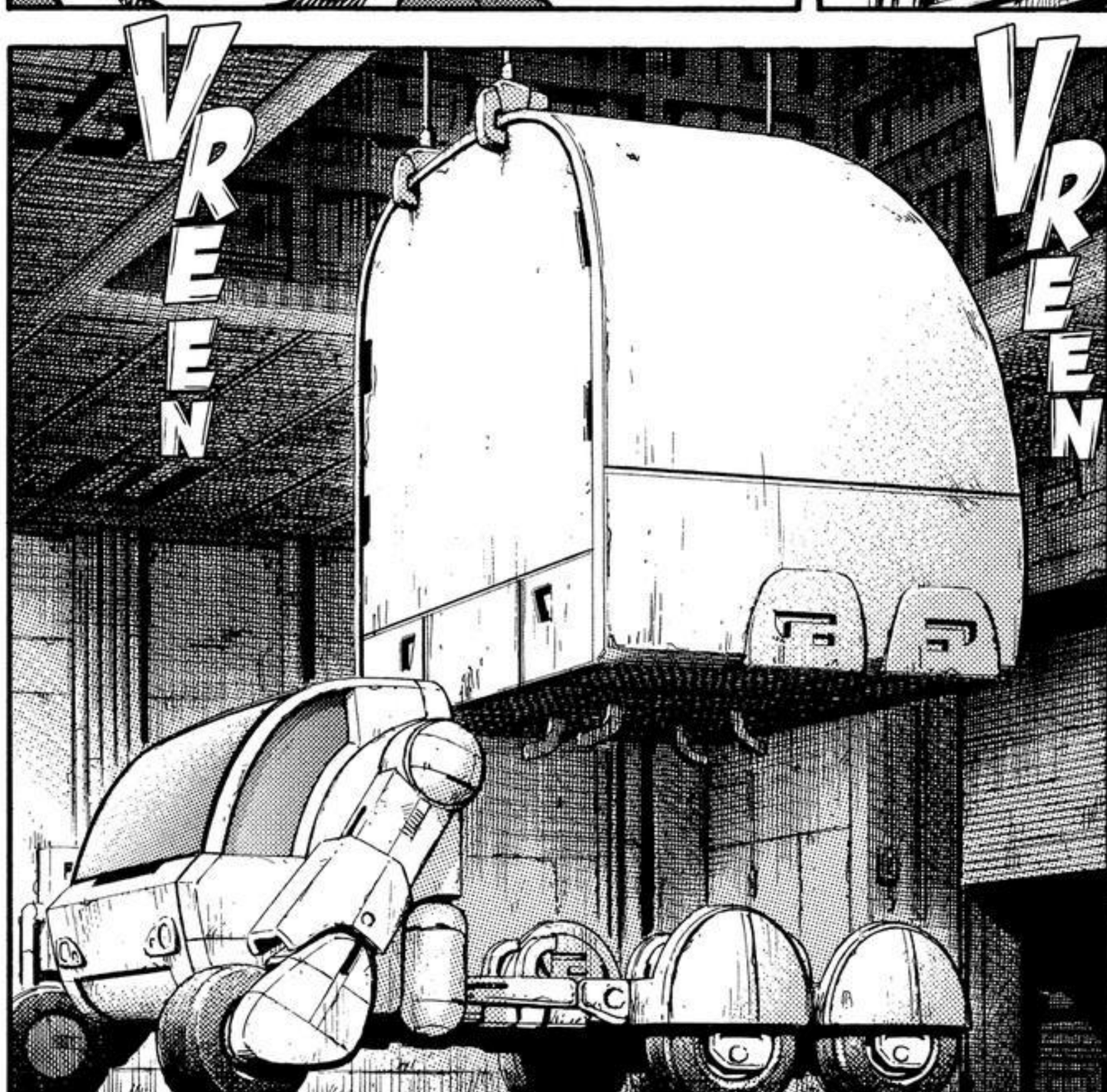
...

I GOTTA DO MY TRAINING ON THE *SLY*... GET IT?

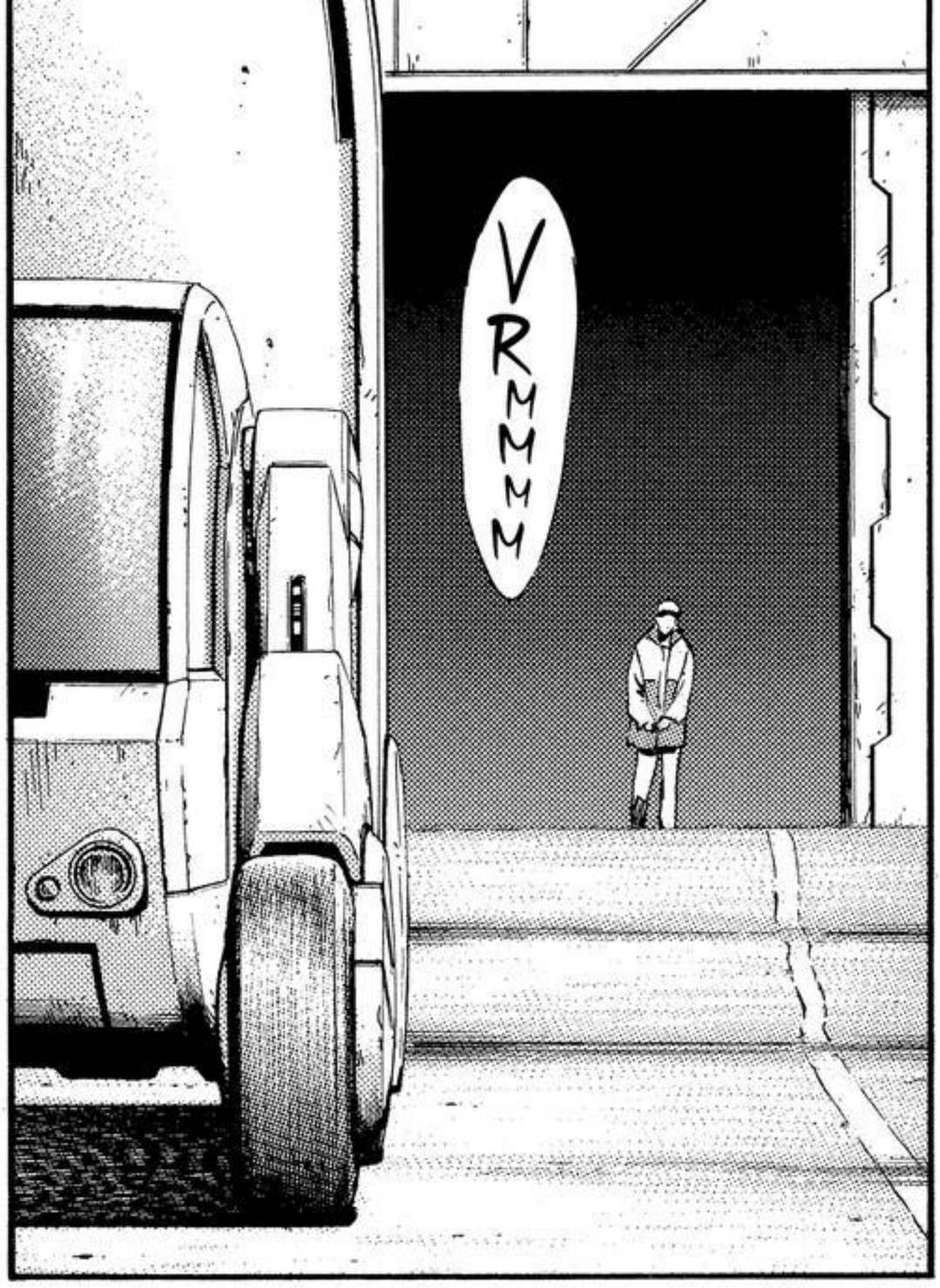

VREEN
VREEN


VREEN
VREEN

I REALLY WISH I HAD MY OLD COMBAT SUIT, BUT THE ARMY'S GOT IT UNDER LOCK AND KEY...

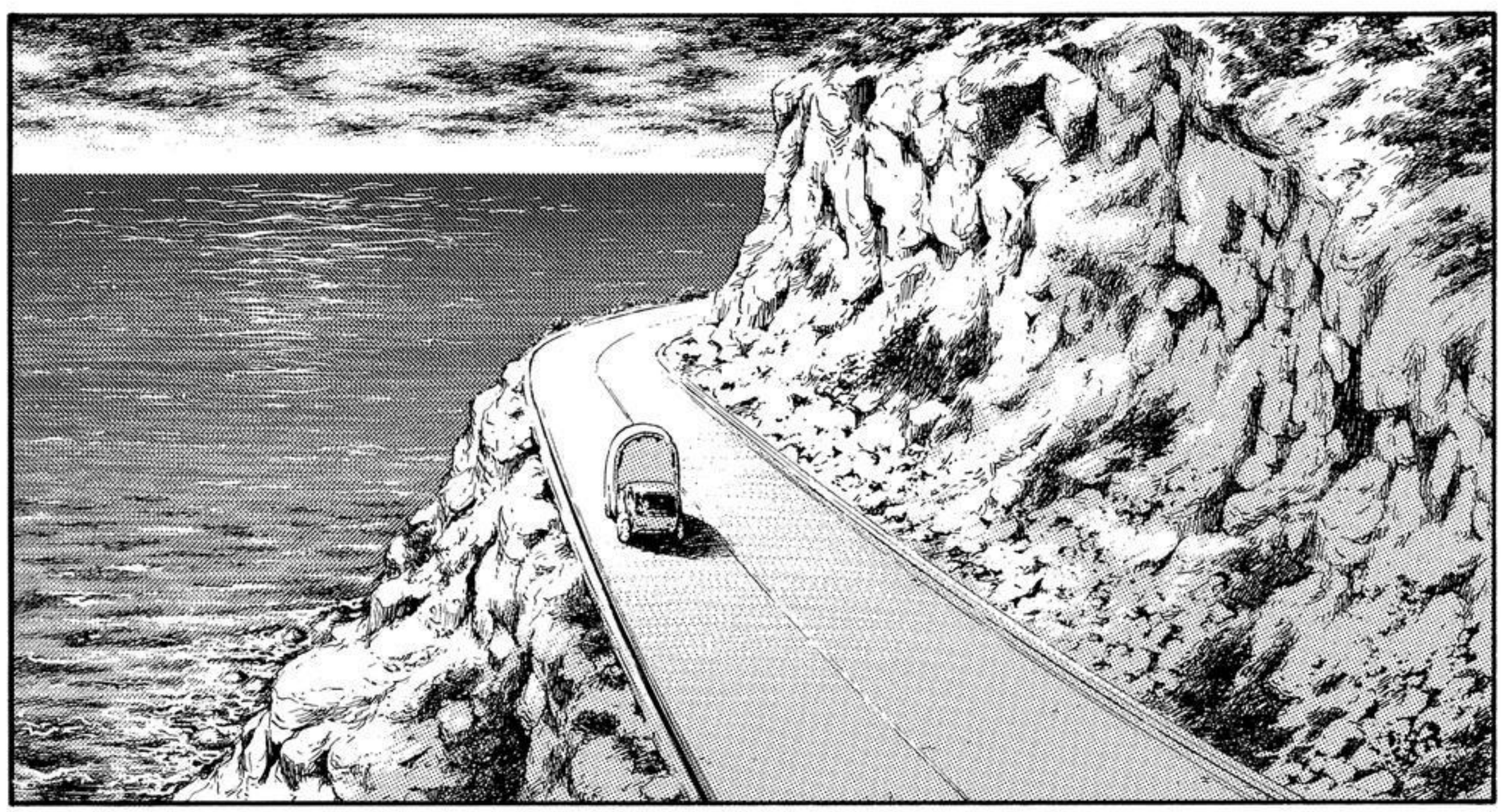

VREEN
VREEN

WHAT'S THAT?
NOTHING... JUST TALKIN' TO MYSELF...

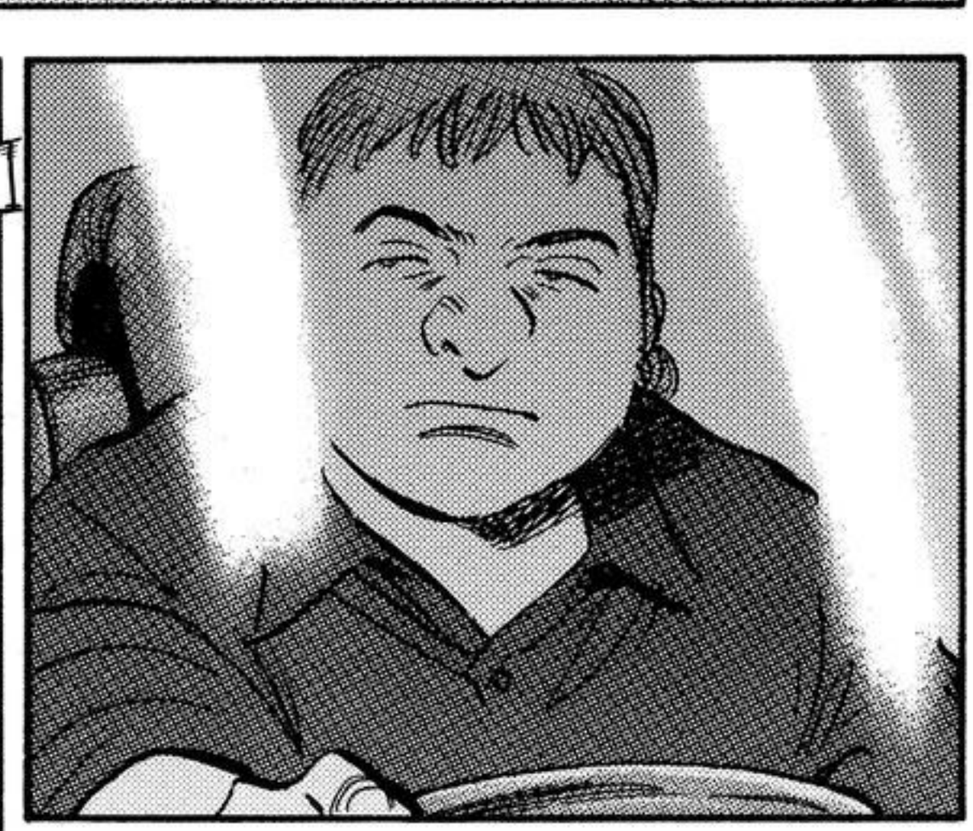

VRMMMM

DON'T BE TOO LONG, MR. BRANDO!

DON'T WORRY. NO ONE'S THE WISER.

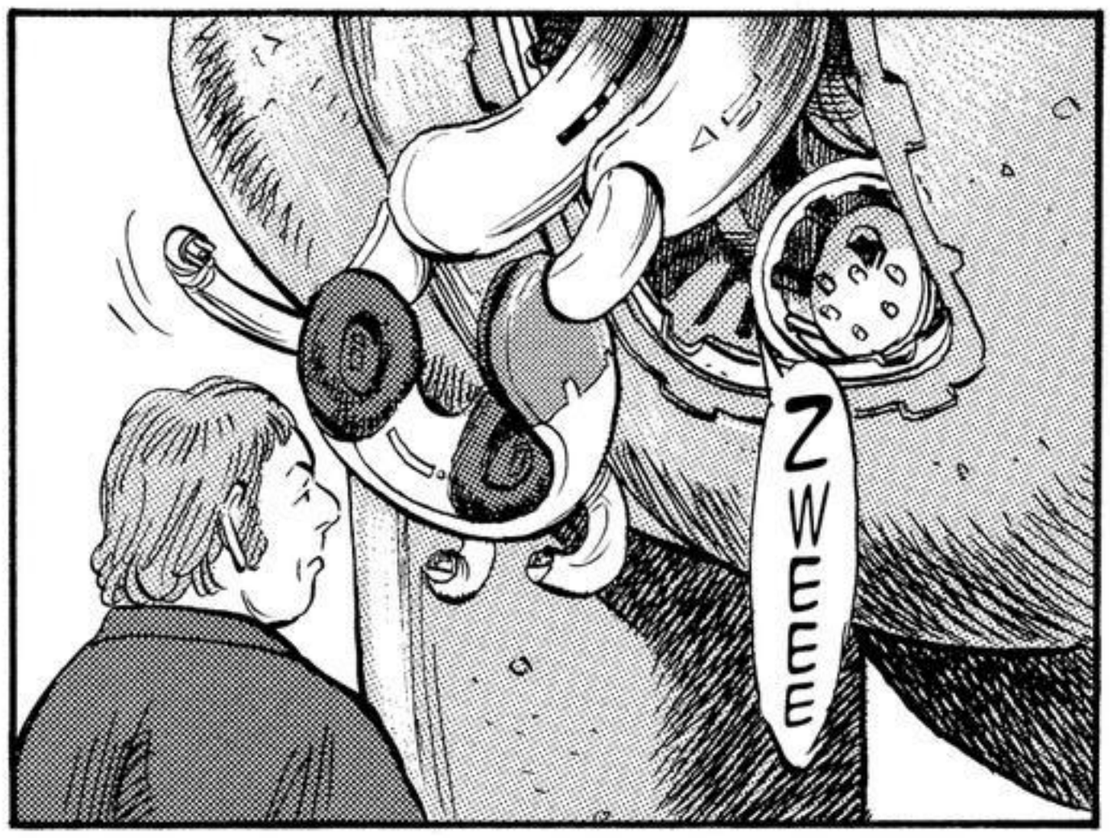


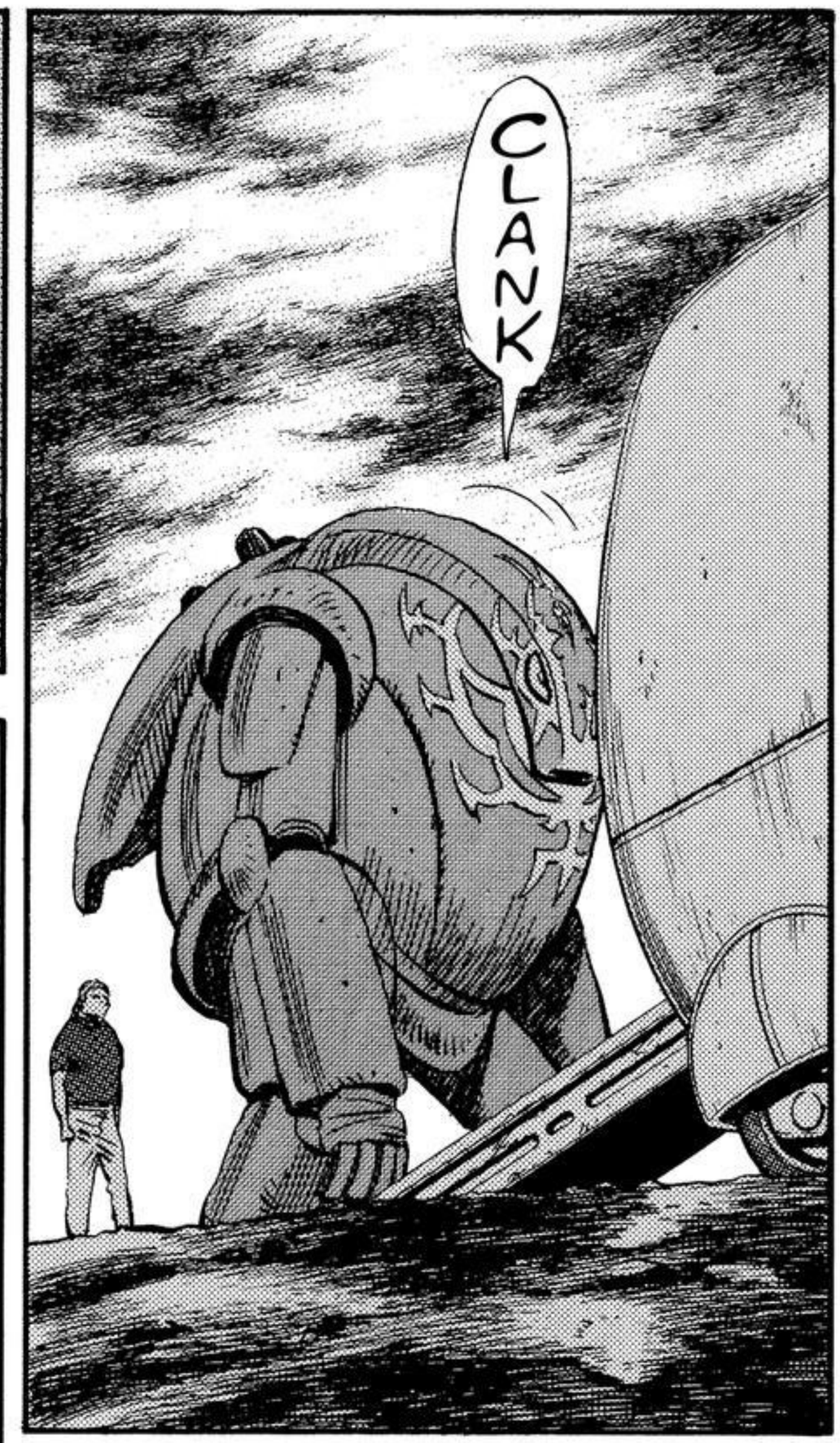
R
O
A
R

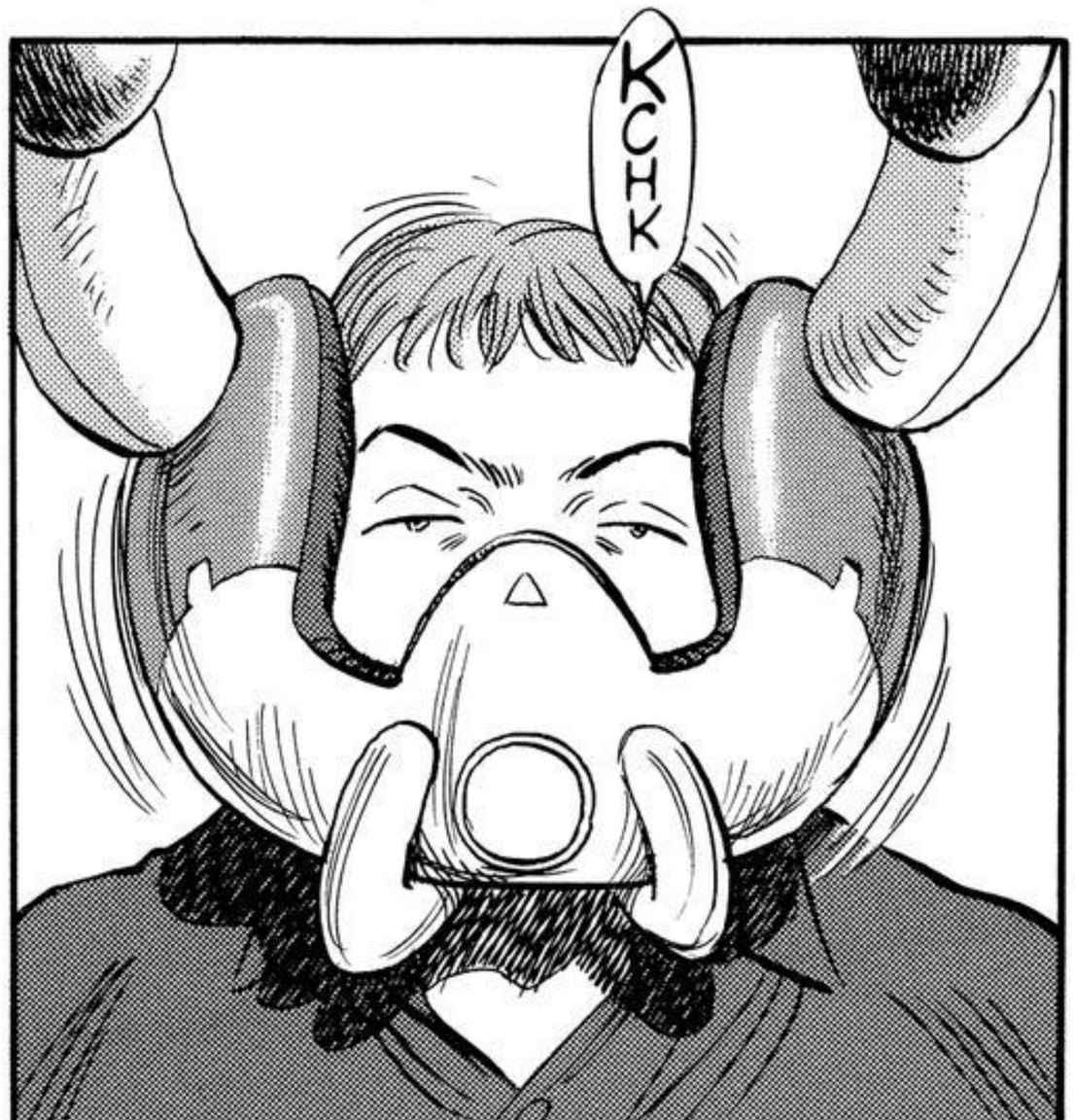


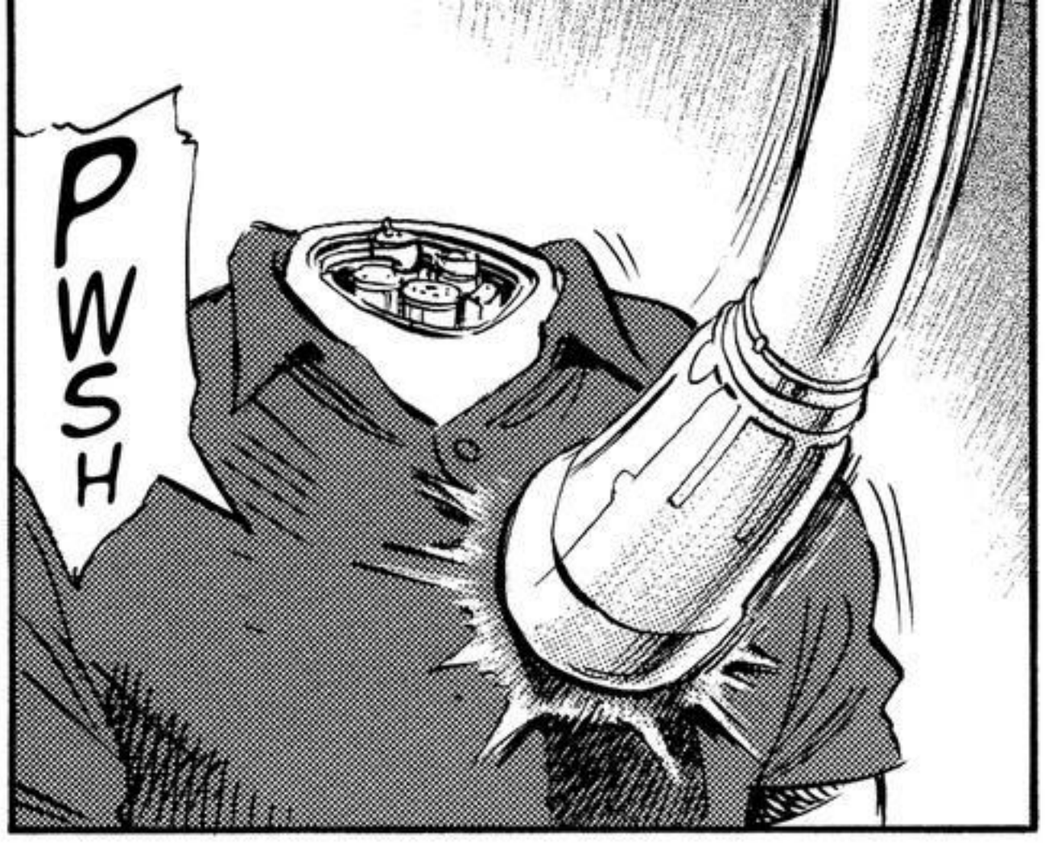
THIS IS AS GOOD AS ANYWHERE, I GUESS...

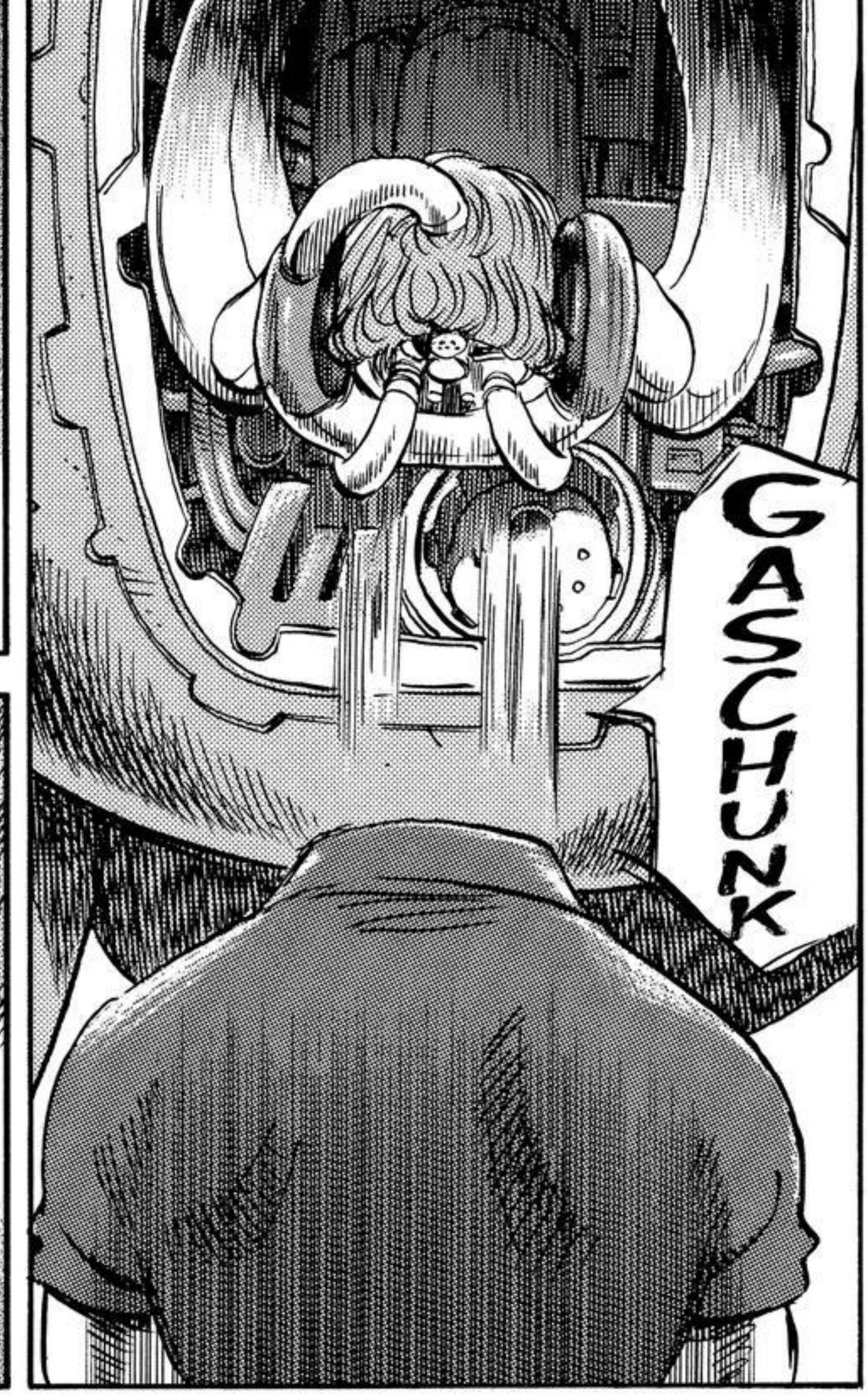
RELAX, PAL... I'M COMING...

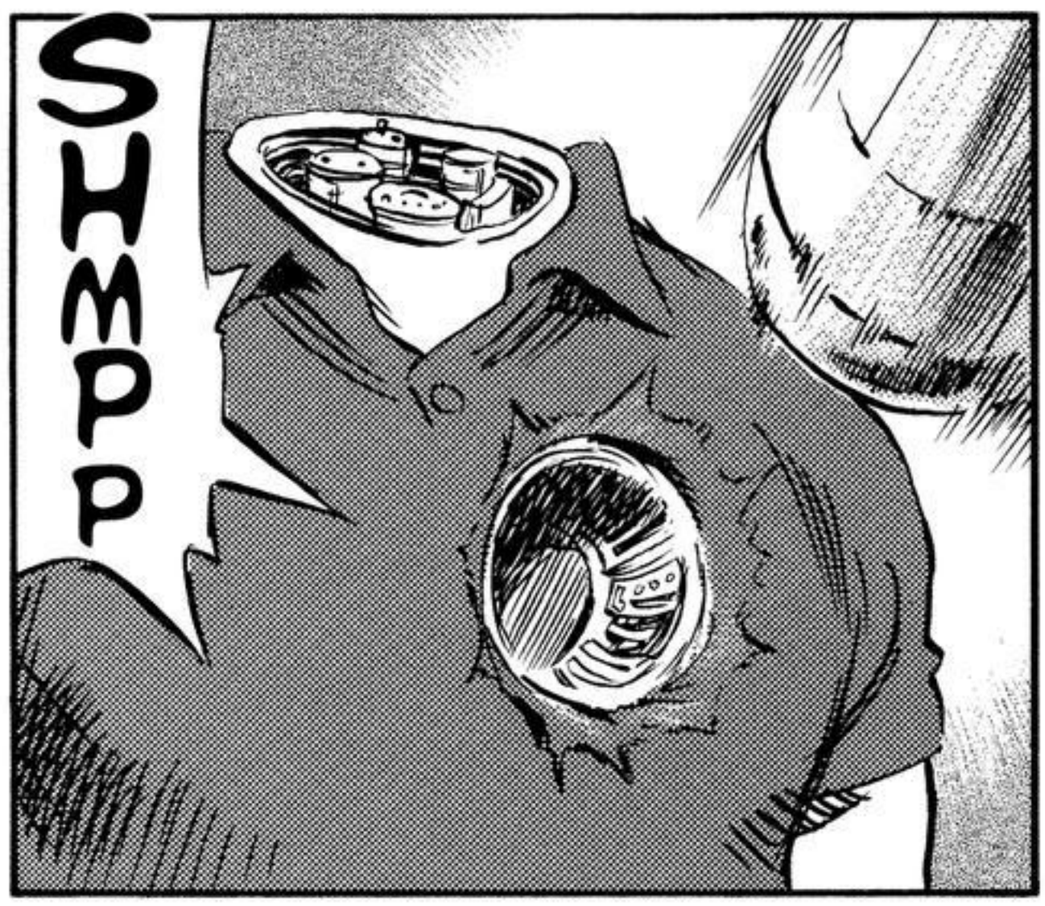


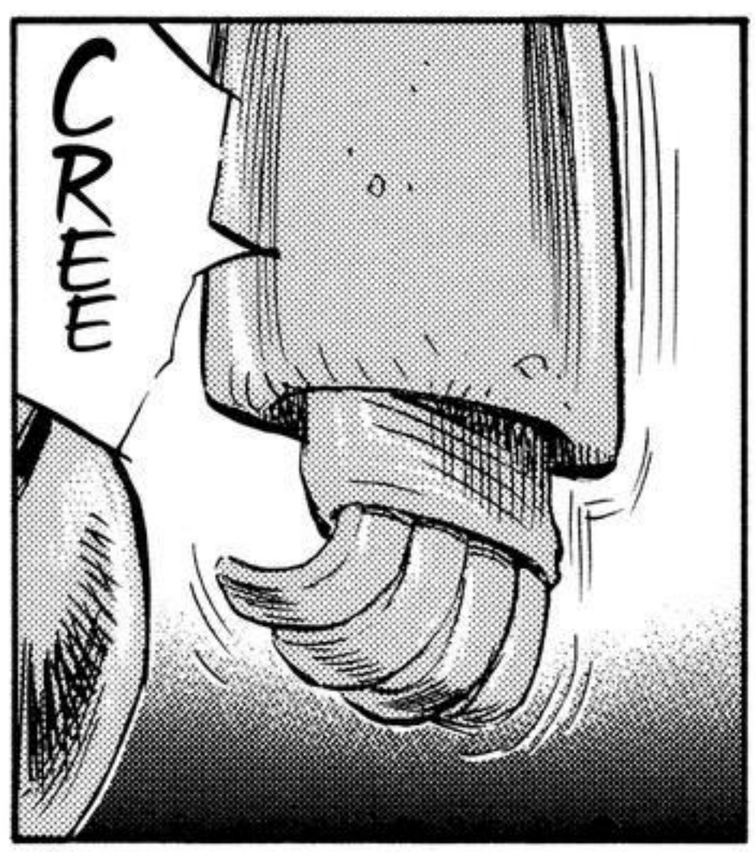




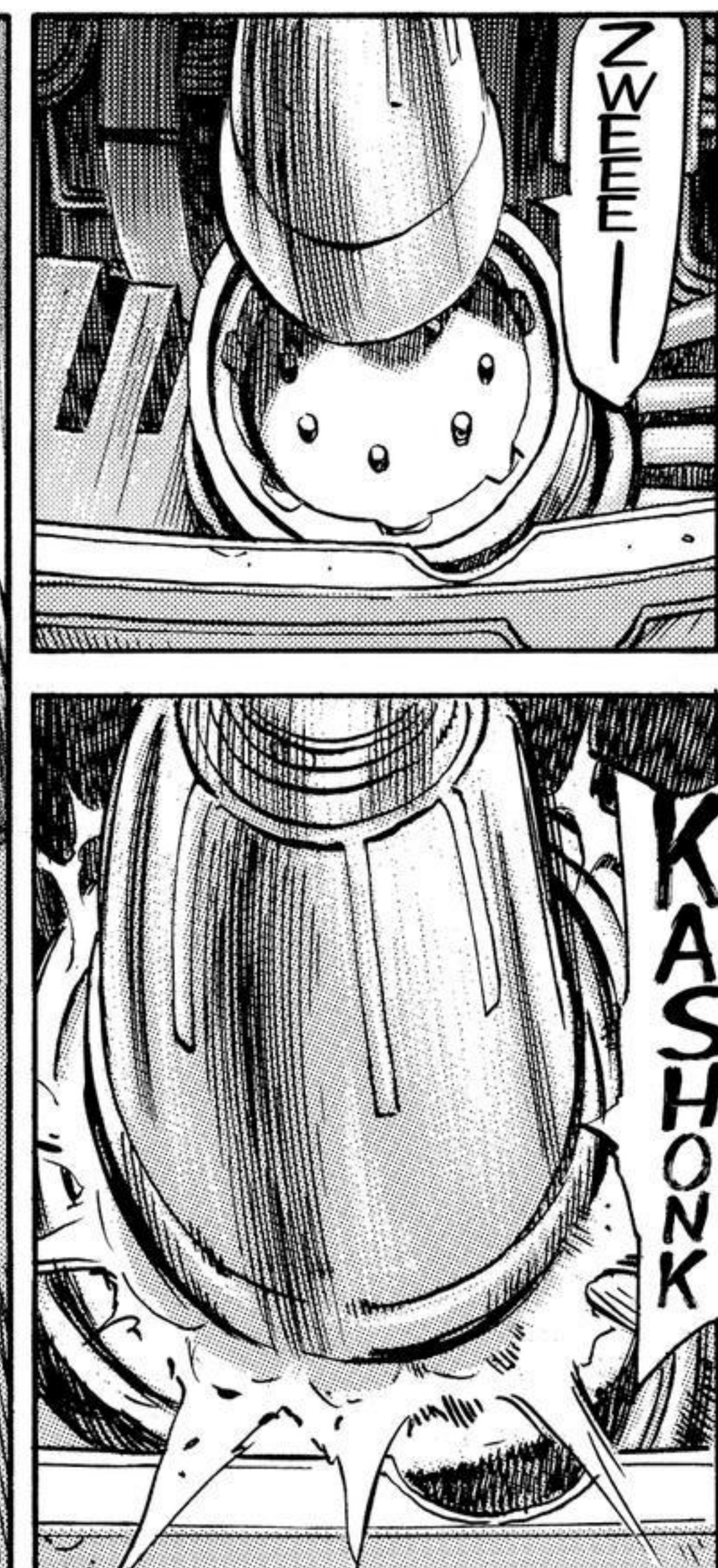

PWSH

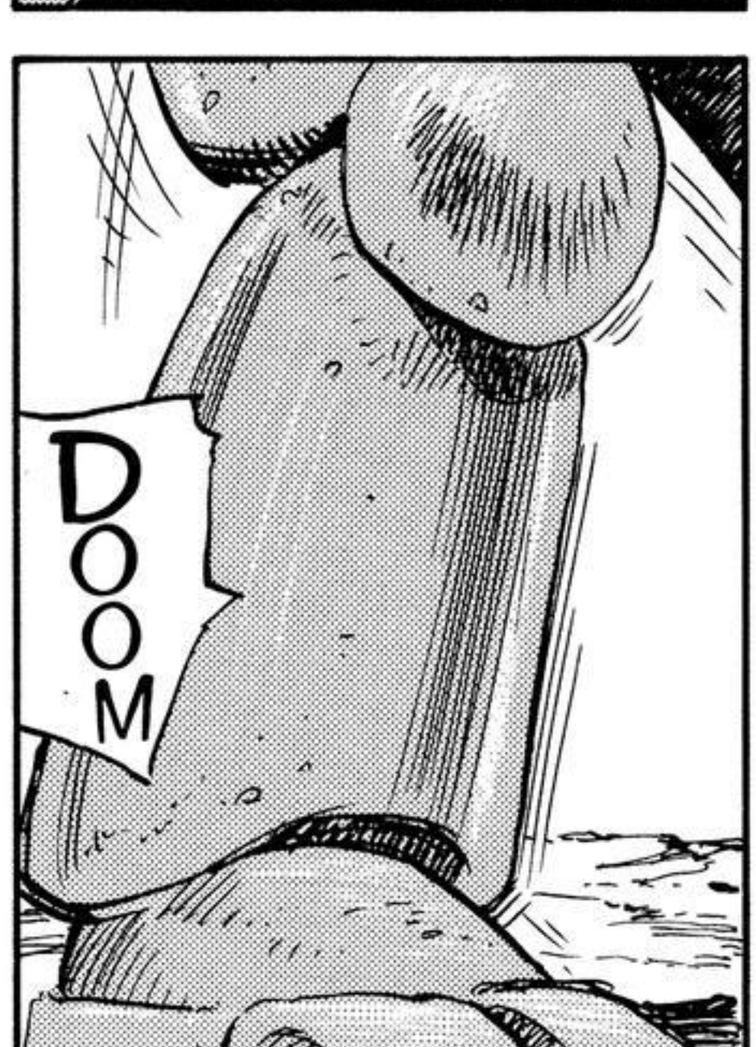

GASCHUNK


SHMPP


CREE

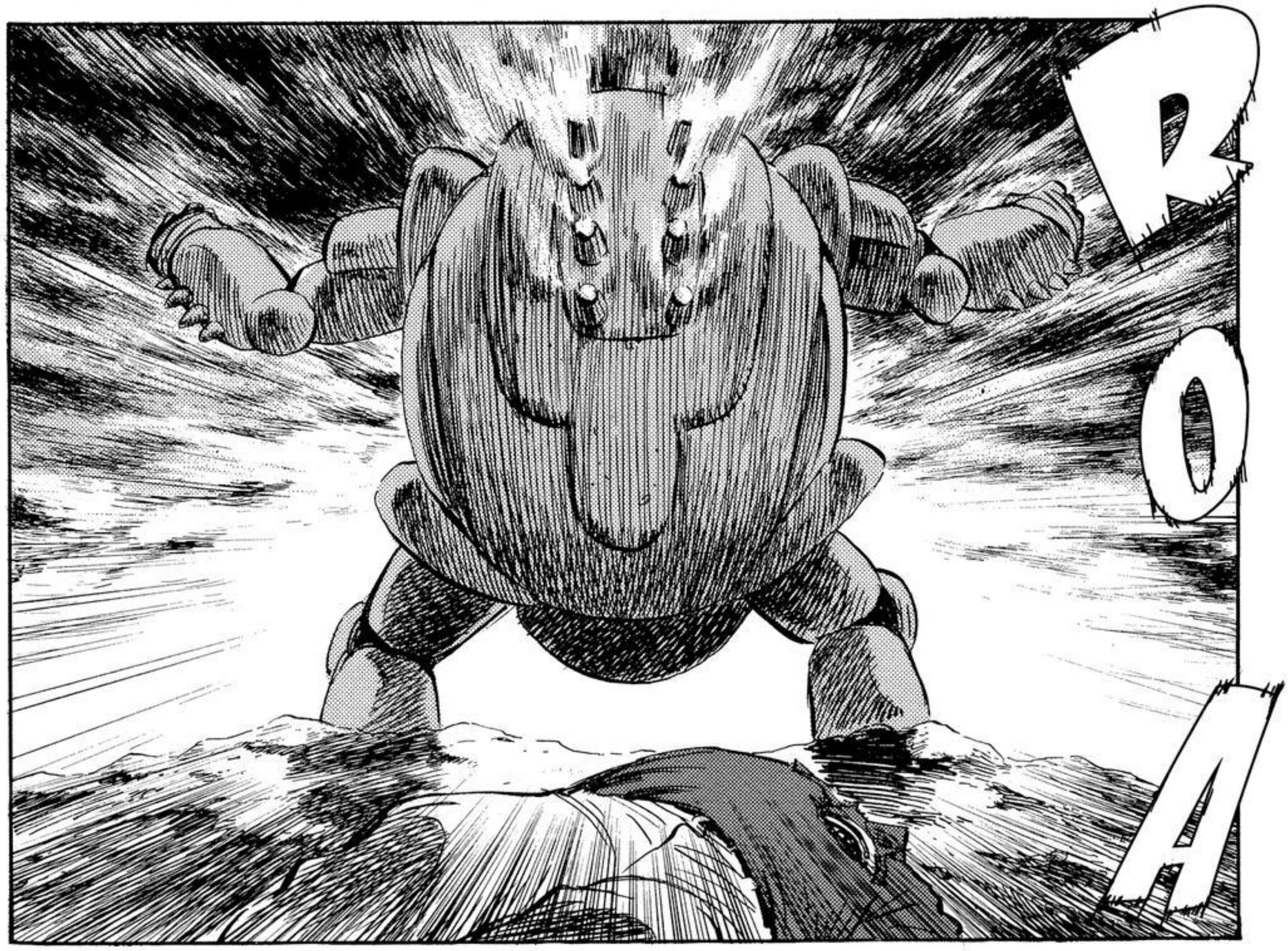
WOOSH


ZWEEE—
KASHONK


DOOM

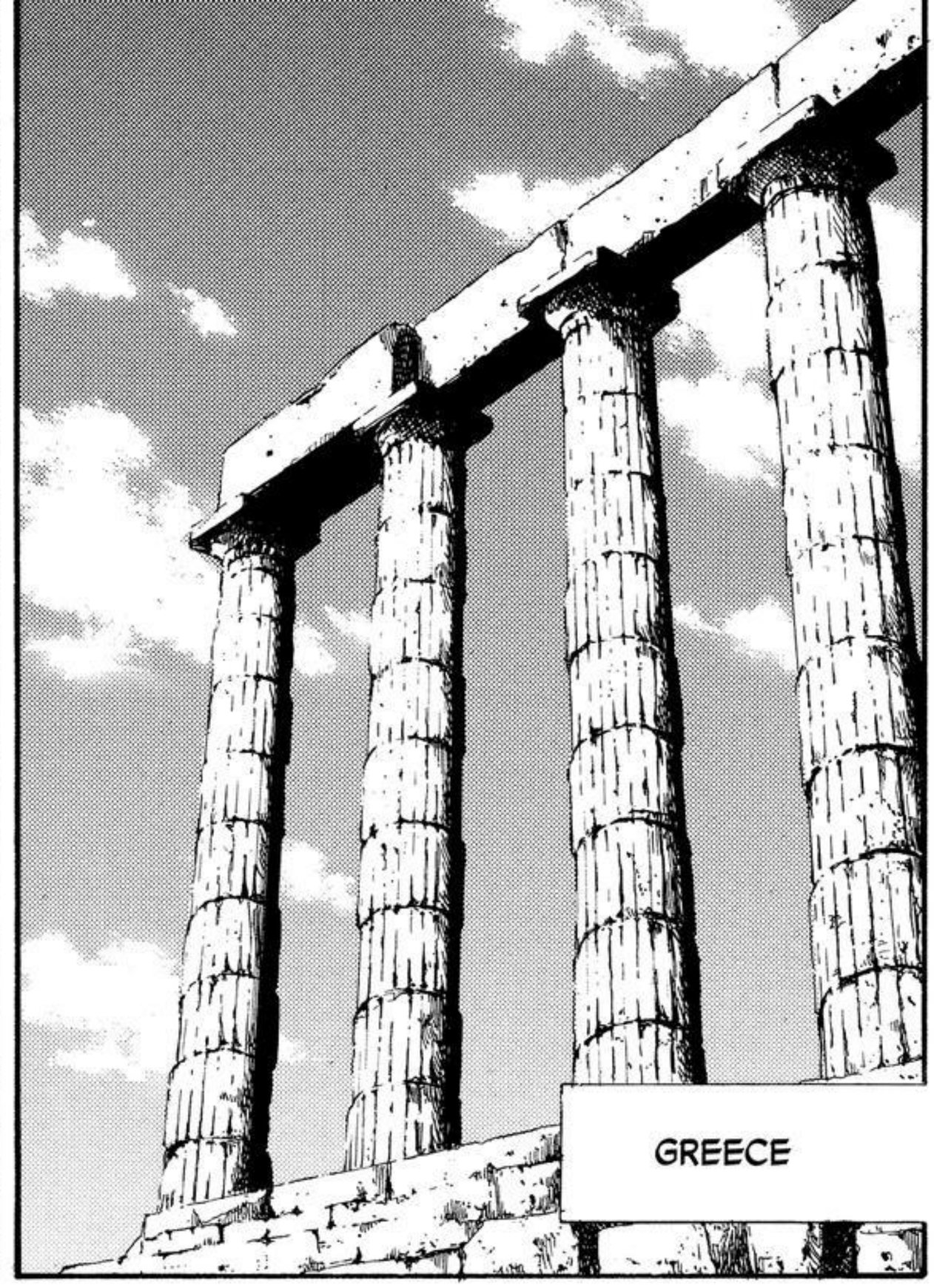
WOOSH
WOOSH
WOOSH
ROAR

FWUMP!


RA

PA

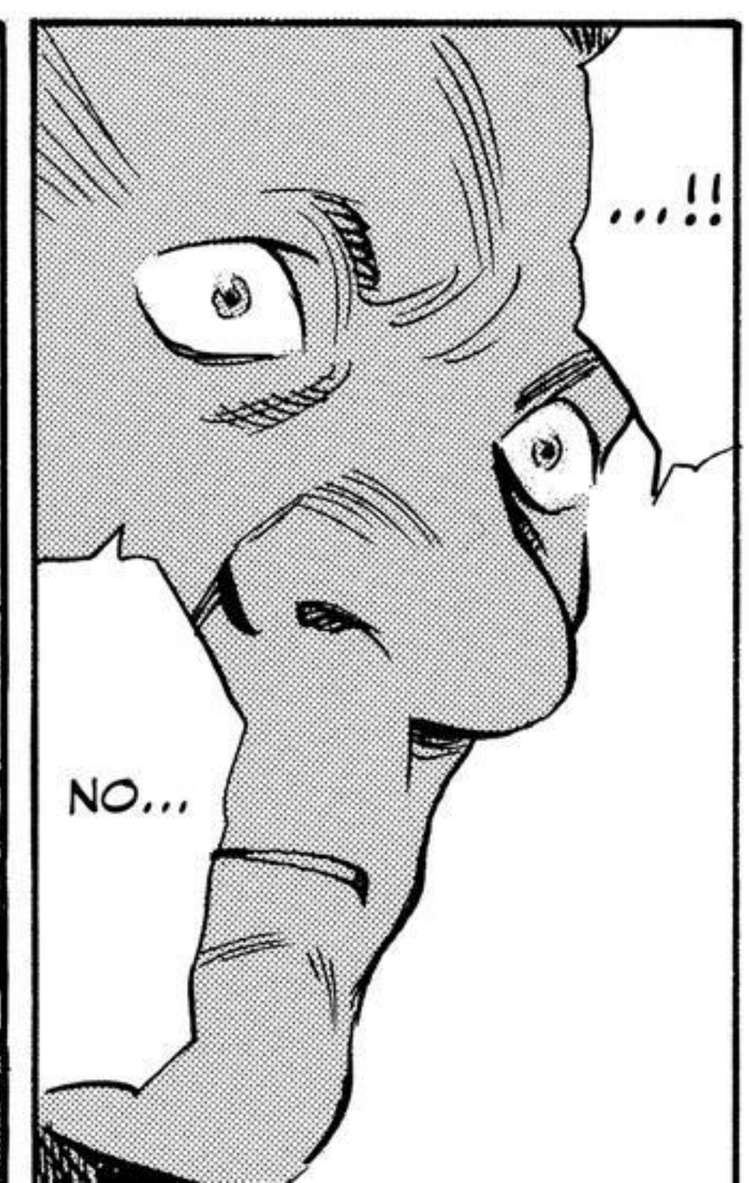
?!

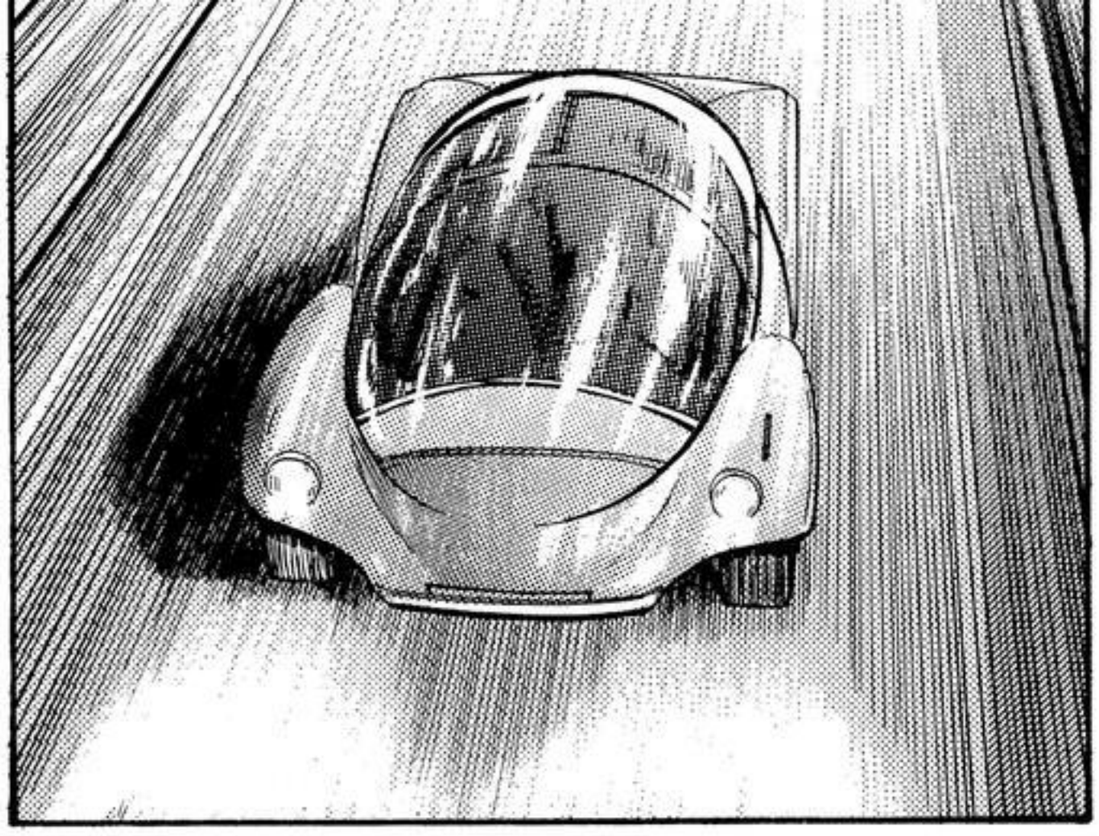

GREECE

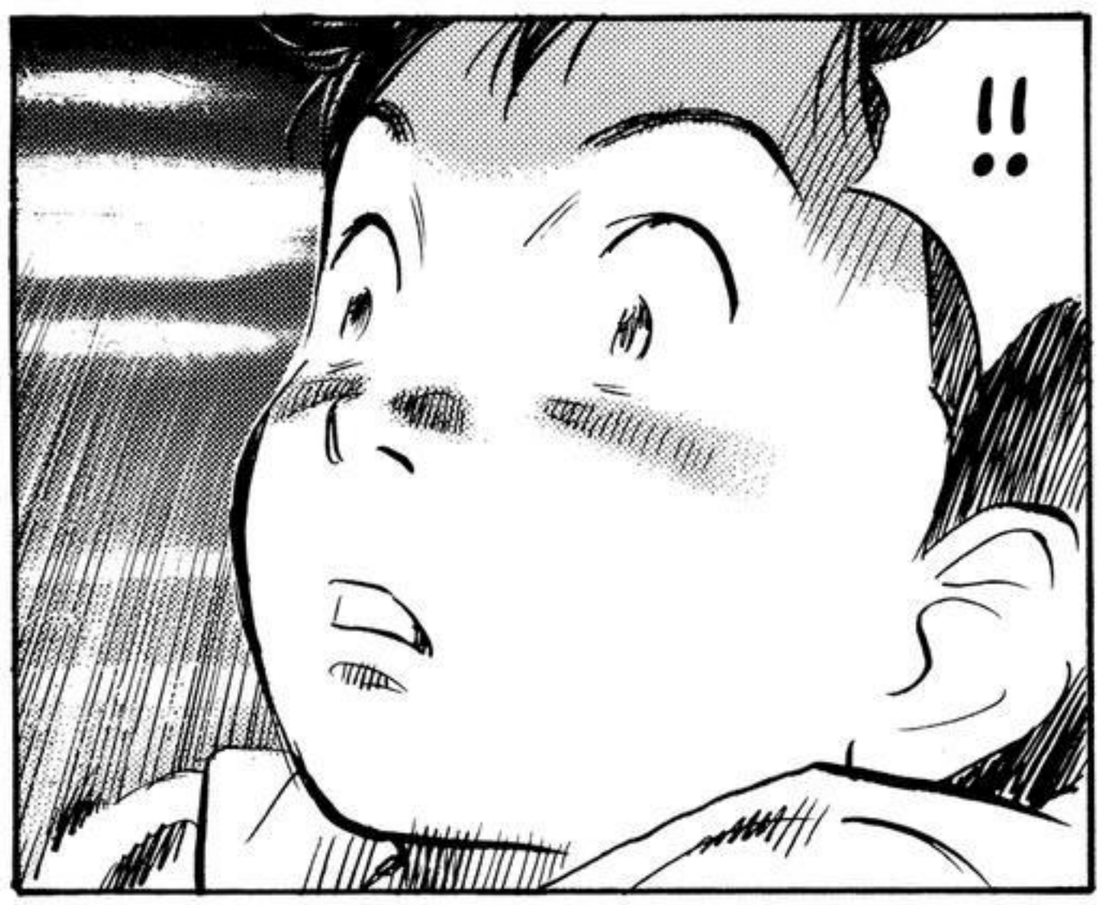
QUICK, PATCH YOURSELF IN!

WHAT IS IT, INSPECTOR?

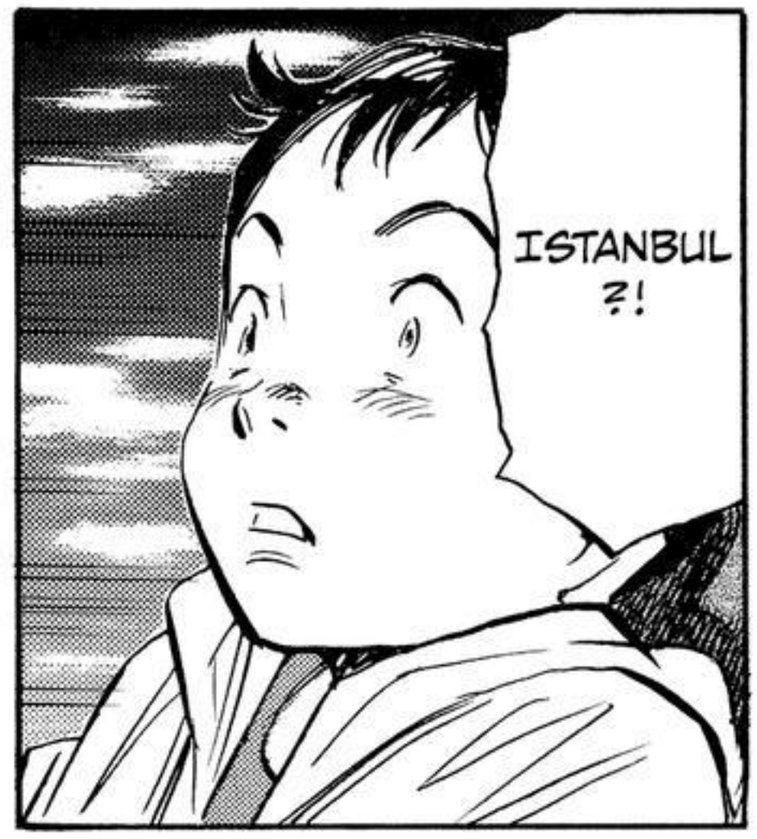
ATOM!
ATOM! YOU PATCH IN TOO!!

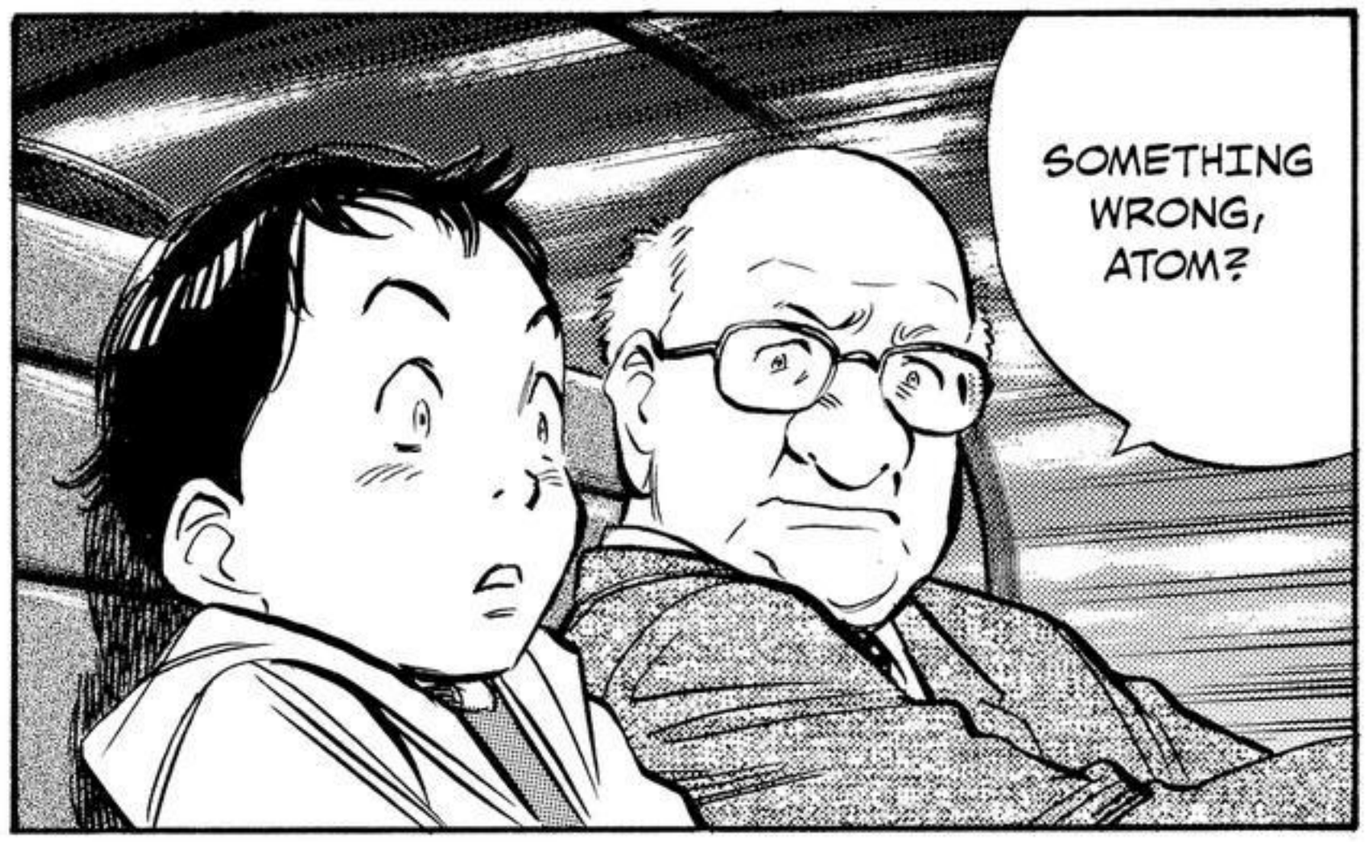

...!!
NO...




!!

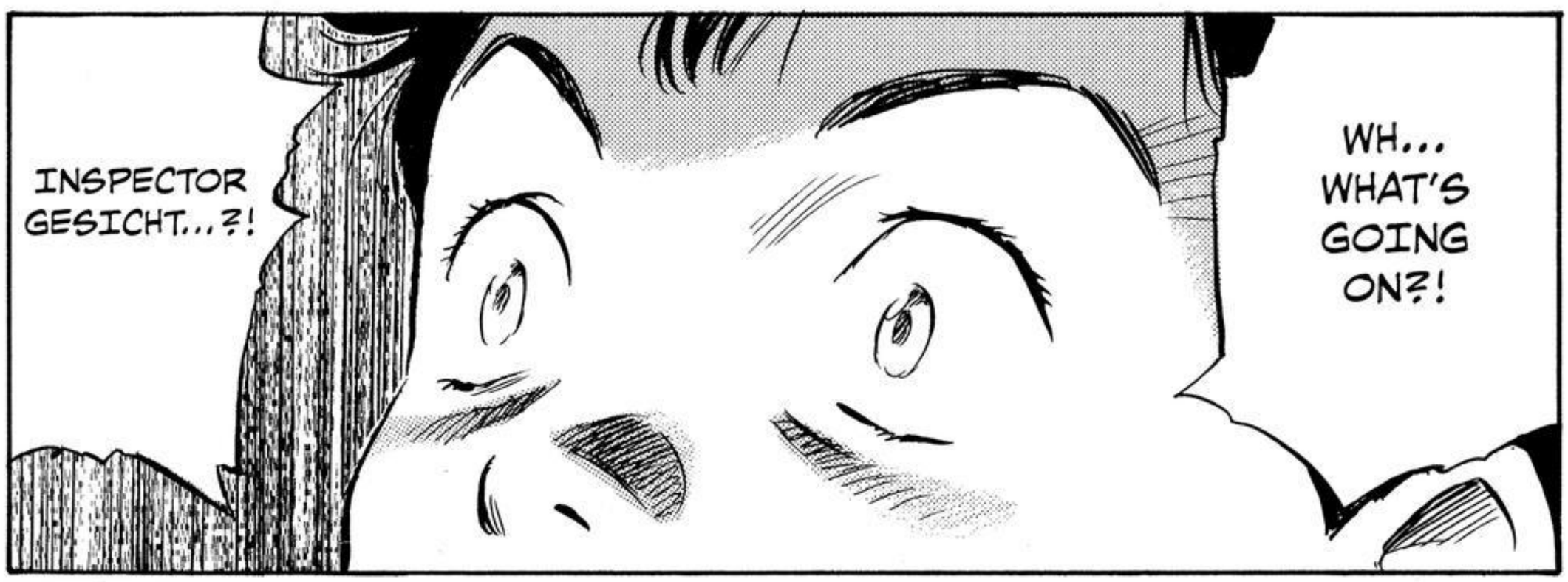
清酒
新代
長屋門
TOKYO CITY


ISTANBUL ?!


SOMETHING WRONG, ATOM?

I...I'M GETTING A SIGNAL FROM ISTANBUL!

ISTANBUL ...?


INSPECTOR GESICHT...?!
WH... WHAT'S GOING ON?!

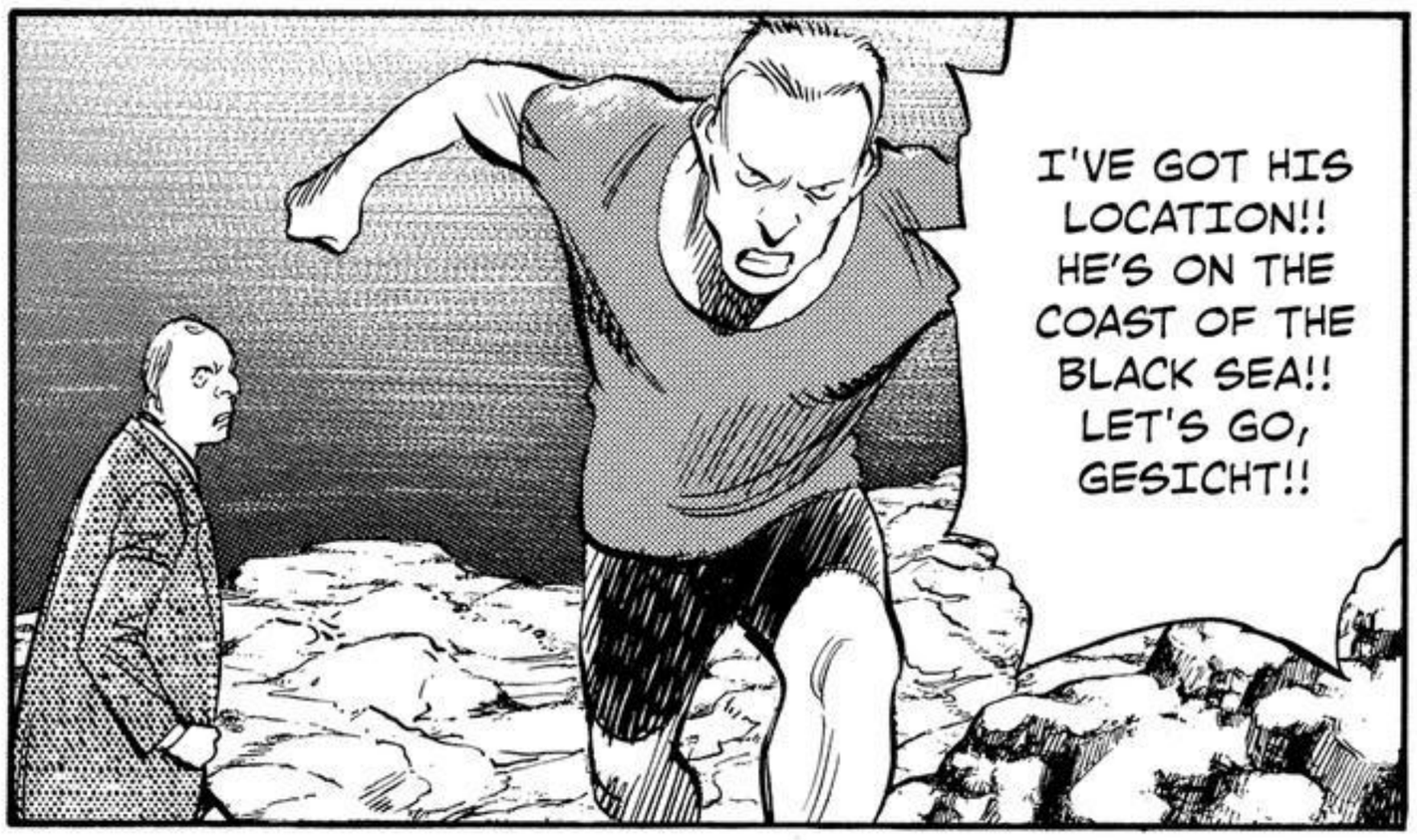
BRANDO'S TRYING TO COMMU-NICATE WITH US, ATOM!!

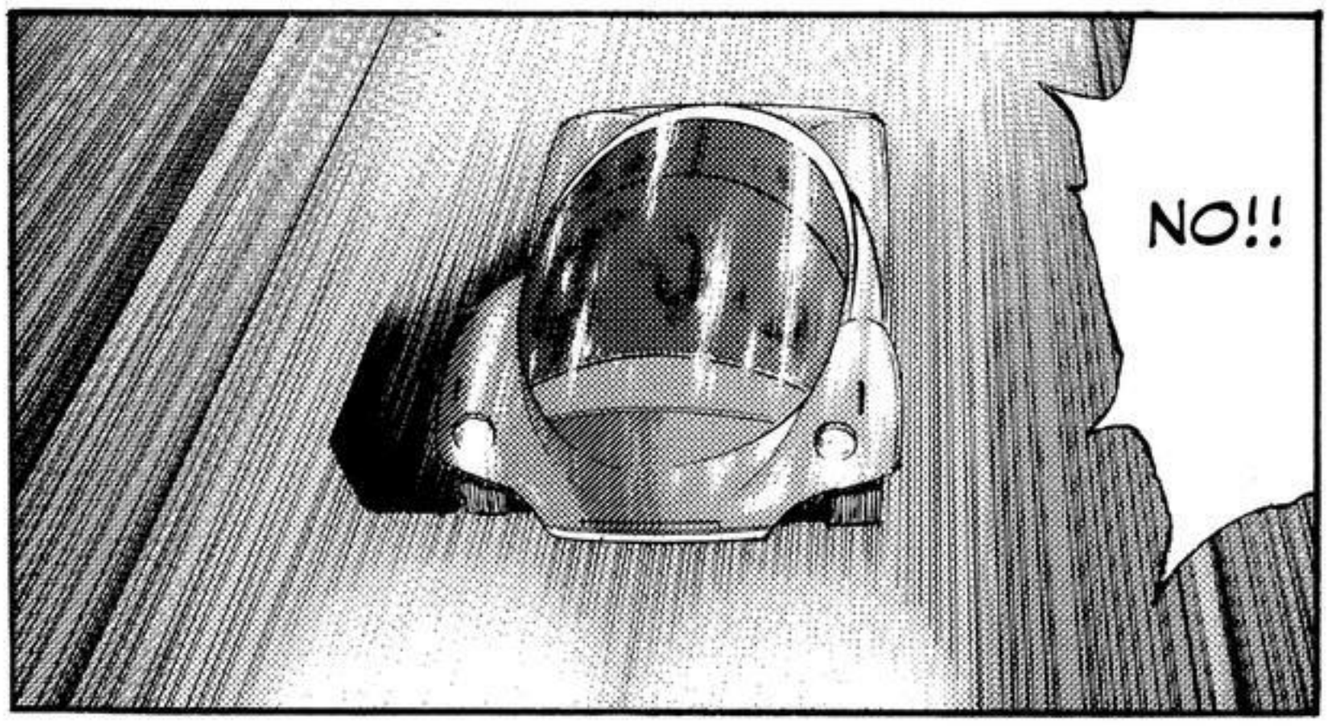
ROAR
SOME-
THING'S
COMING
AT HIM...

DOOM

Act 12 FAMILY PORTRAIT

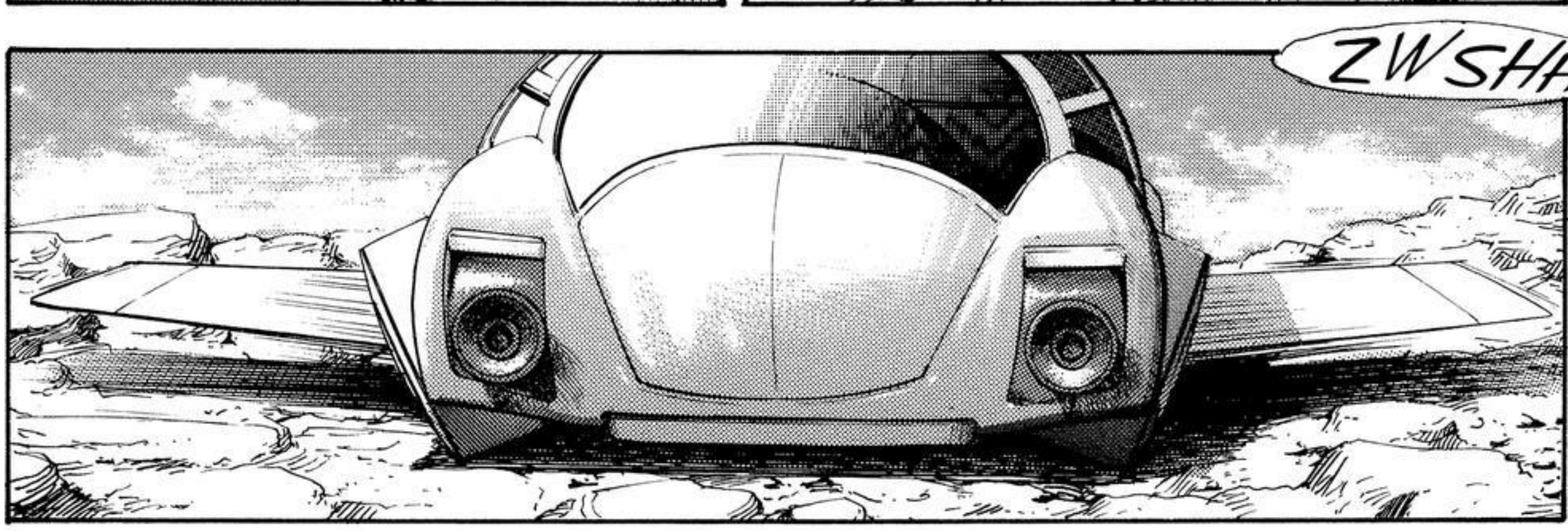
BZZZT
I'M... I'M GOING INTO BATTLE...
FZZZ
I'M GONNA MAKE HIM PAY...
FZZZT

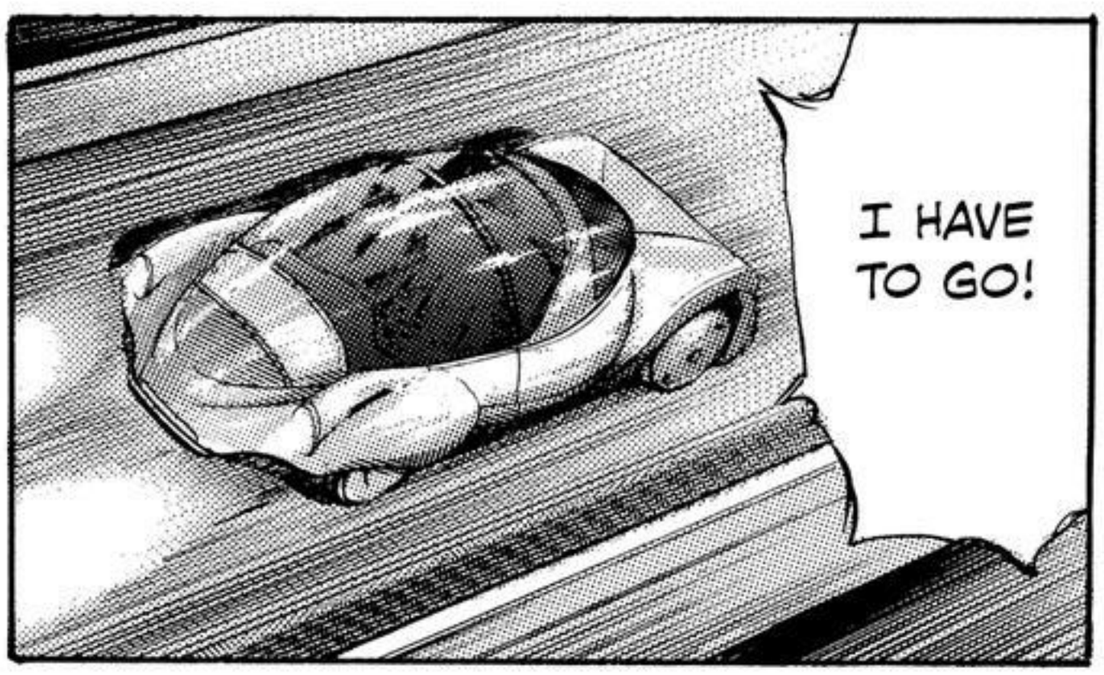




GET OUT OF THERE, BRANDO !!
GROAT
Act 12
FAMILY PORTRAIT

WE'RE COMING TO HELP YOU, PAL!! HANG ON!!
DON'T TAKE HIM HEAD-ON, BRANDO!!


ZWSHH


I HAVE TO GO!

VROOM

PROFESSOR, I *HAVE* TO GO TO TURKEY!!

B-BUT, PRO-FESSOR ...
NO!! I CAN'T LET YOU GO THERE.

WHAT'S GOING ON, ATOM?

IT'S BRANDO!! SOMETHING'S ATTACKING HIM! WE'VE GOTTA *HURRY*!!

...!!

H-HE'S... STRONG...
BZZT

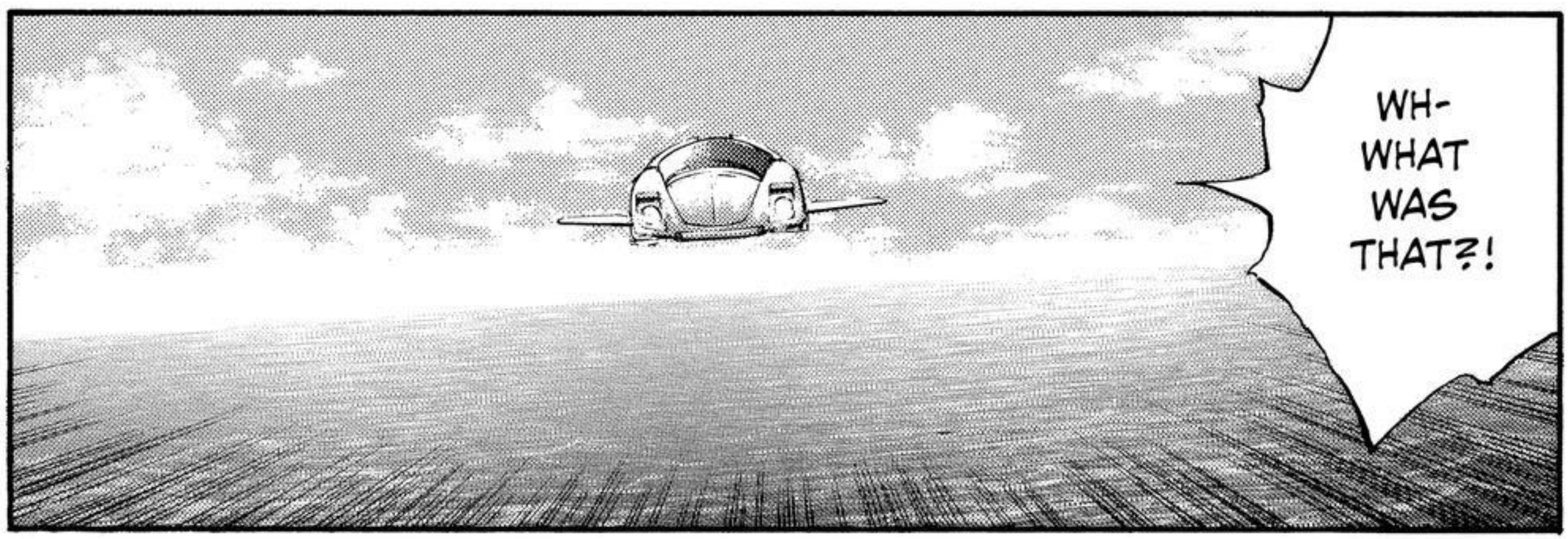
BOOM

WHAT THE...?!!
BZZT

POOF

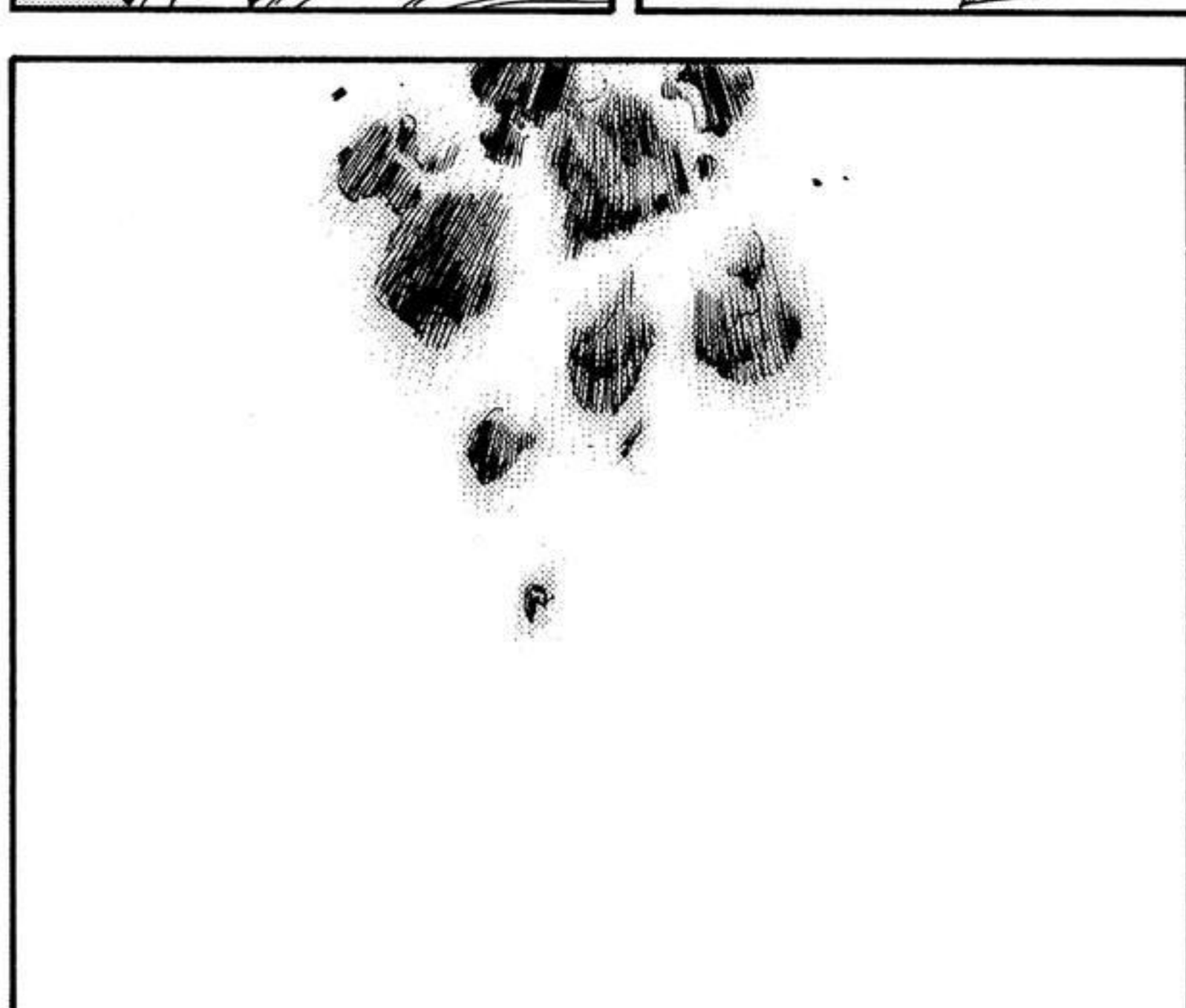
WHAT WAS THAT?!

ATOM! WHAT'S HAPPENING ?!!

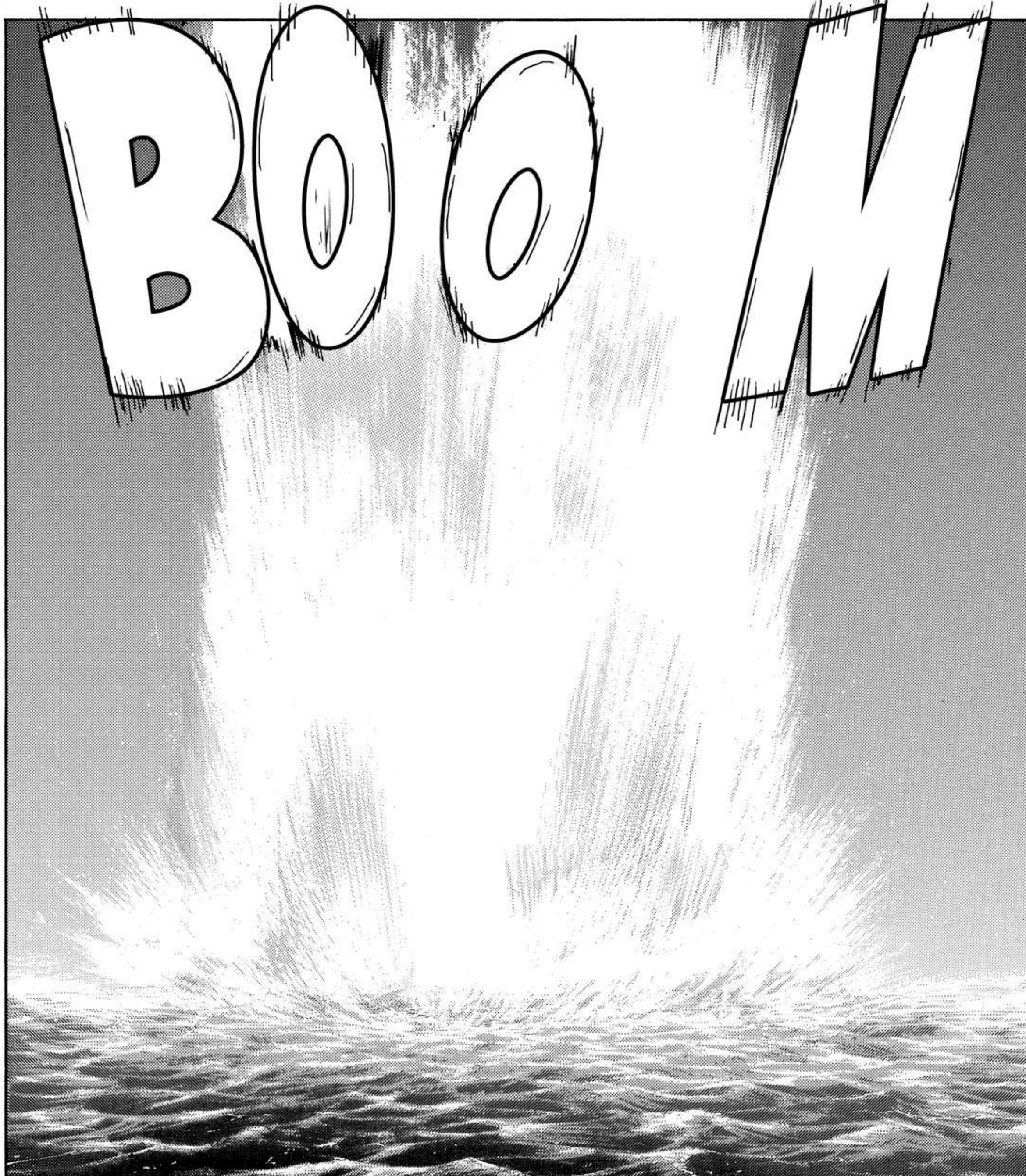

WH-WHAT WAS THAT?!

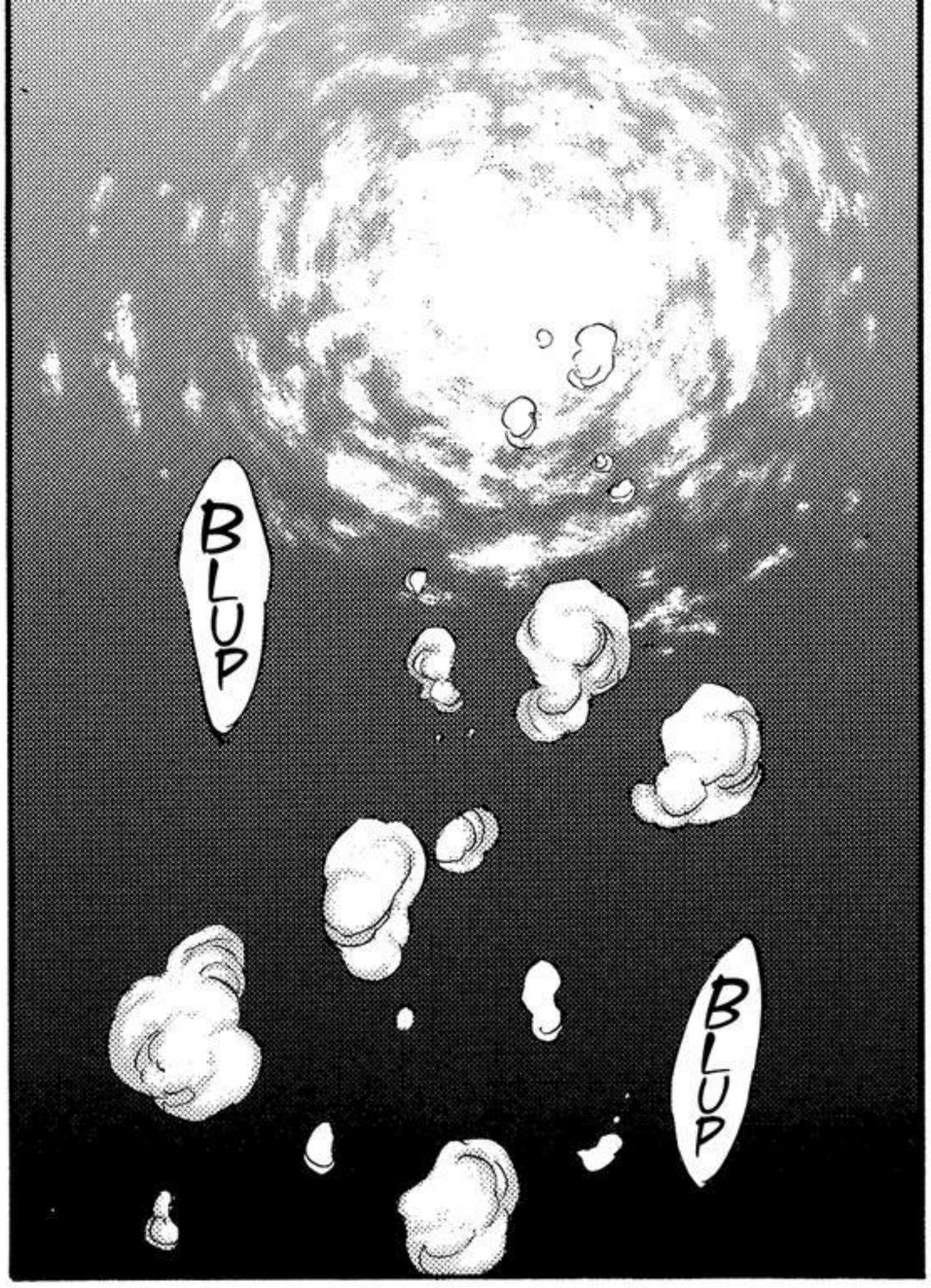
BRANDO ...

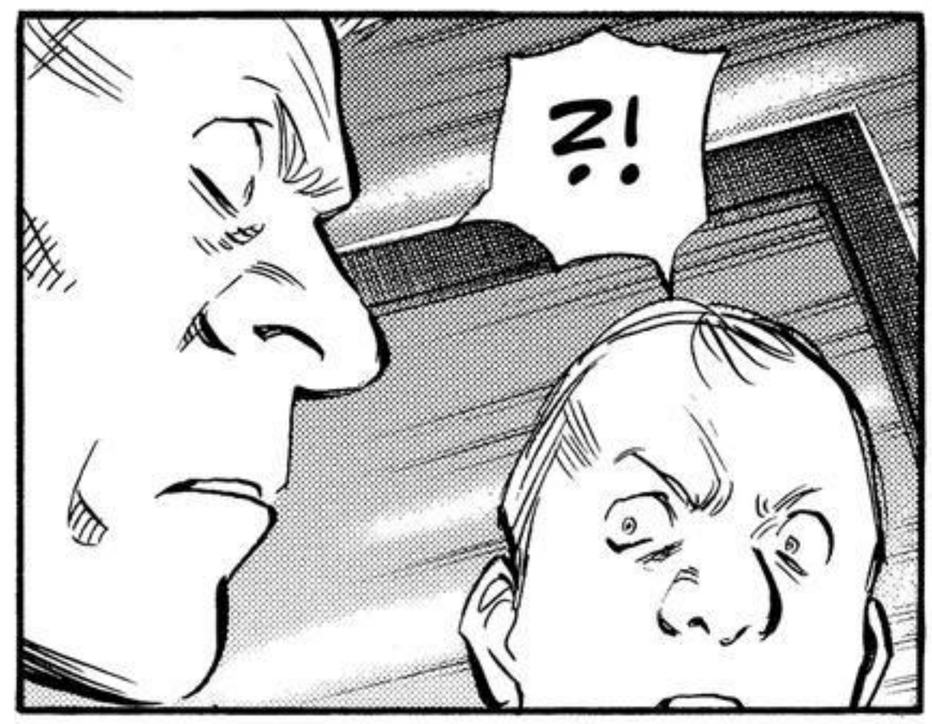
BRANDO! COME IN!!
BRANDO ?!



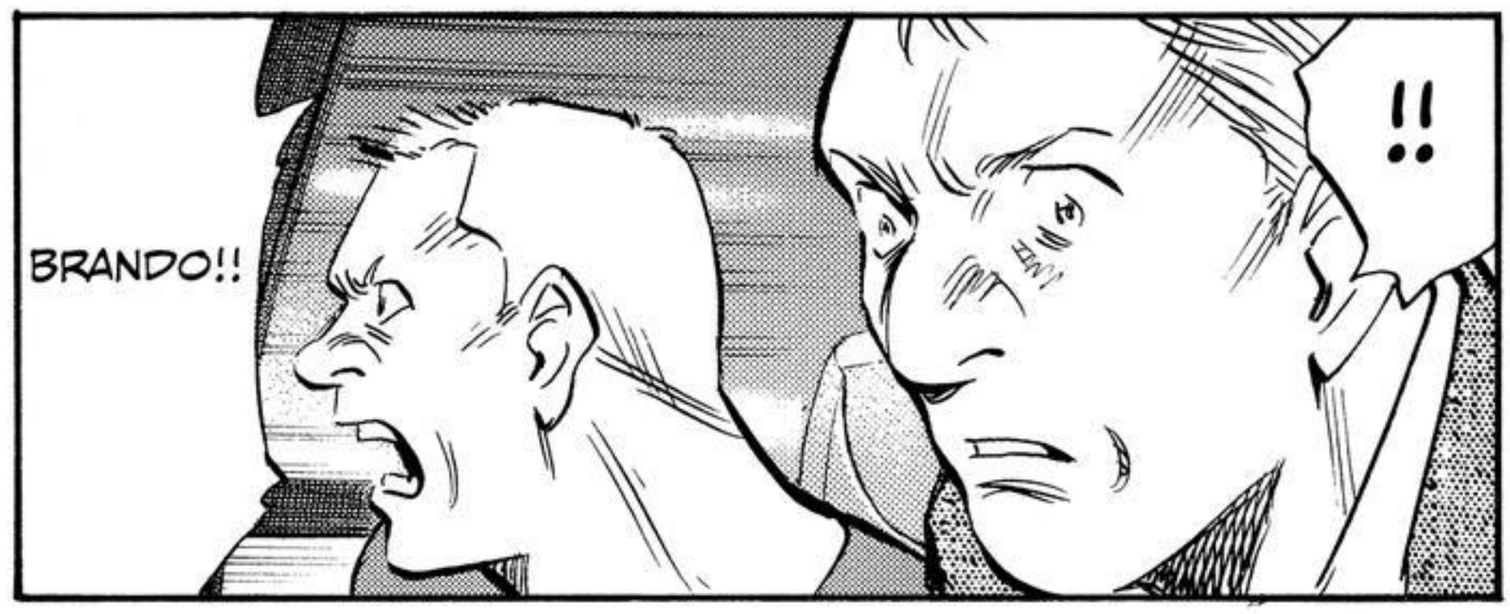
BRANDO!! ARE YOU THERE?!!

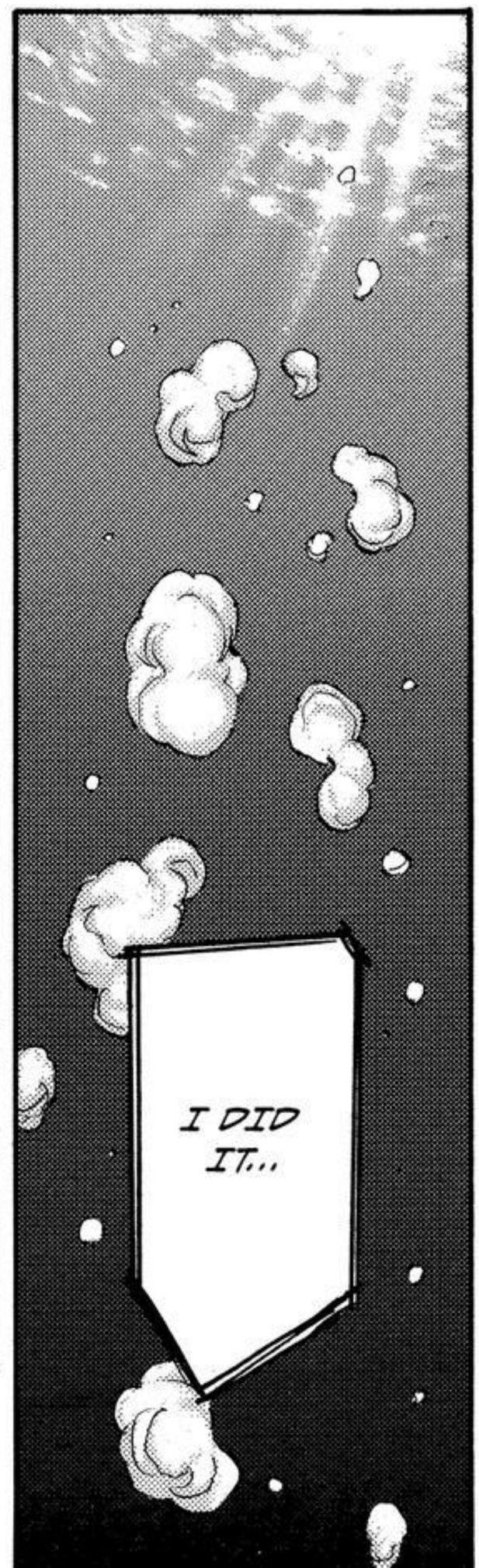

BOOM


BLUP
BLUP


ㅈ!

THE SEA ...?

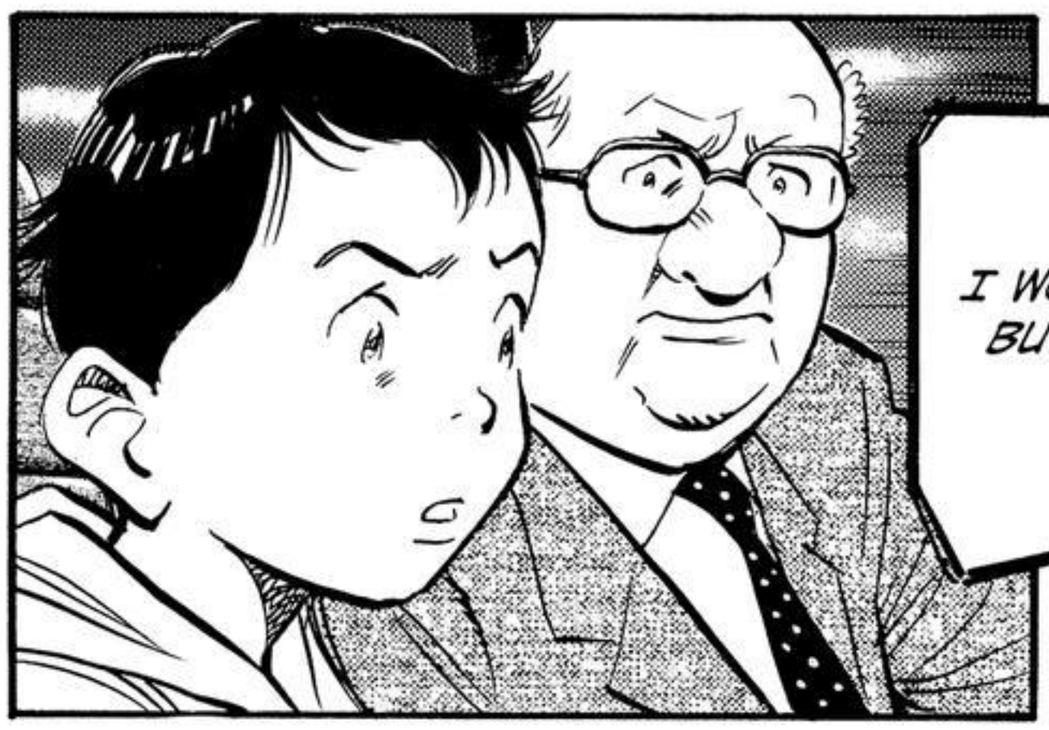

BRANDO!!
!!


I DID IT...

BRANDO!!

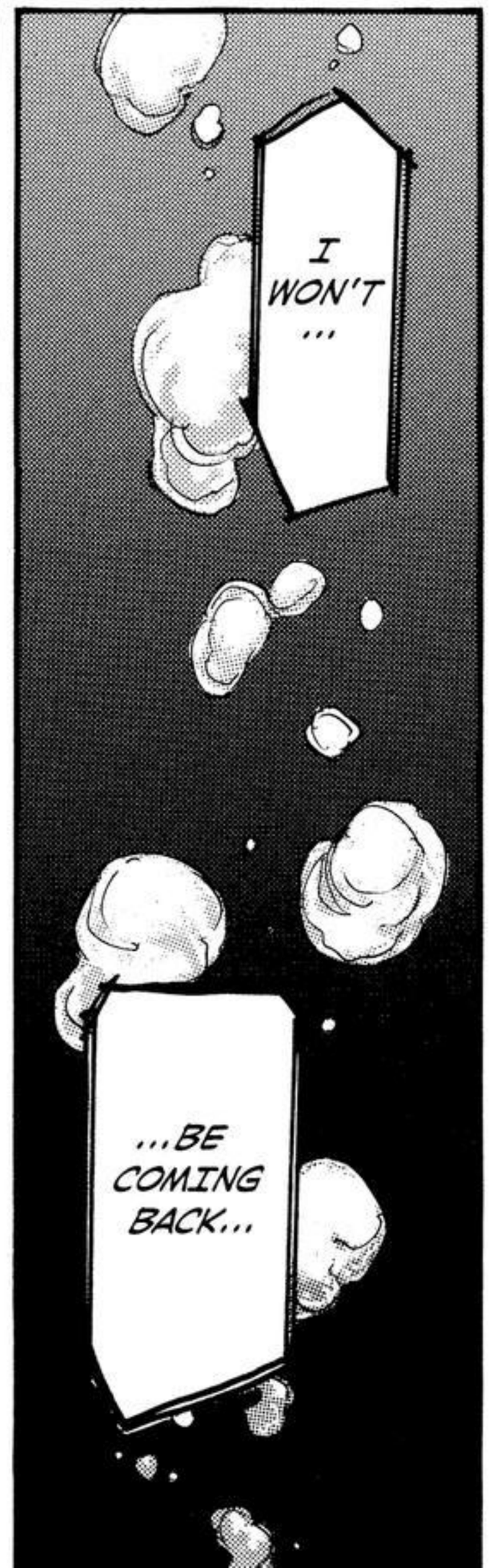
I DID IT, GUYS... I BEAT HIM...

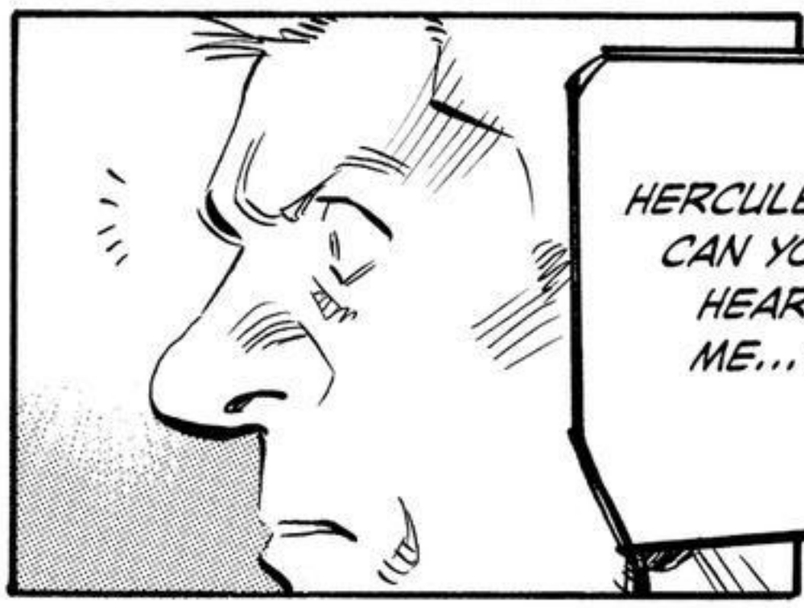
I WON...


I WON, BUT...

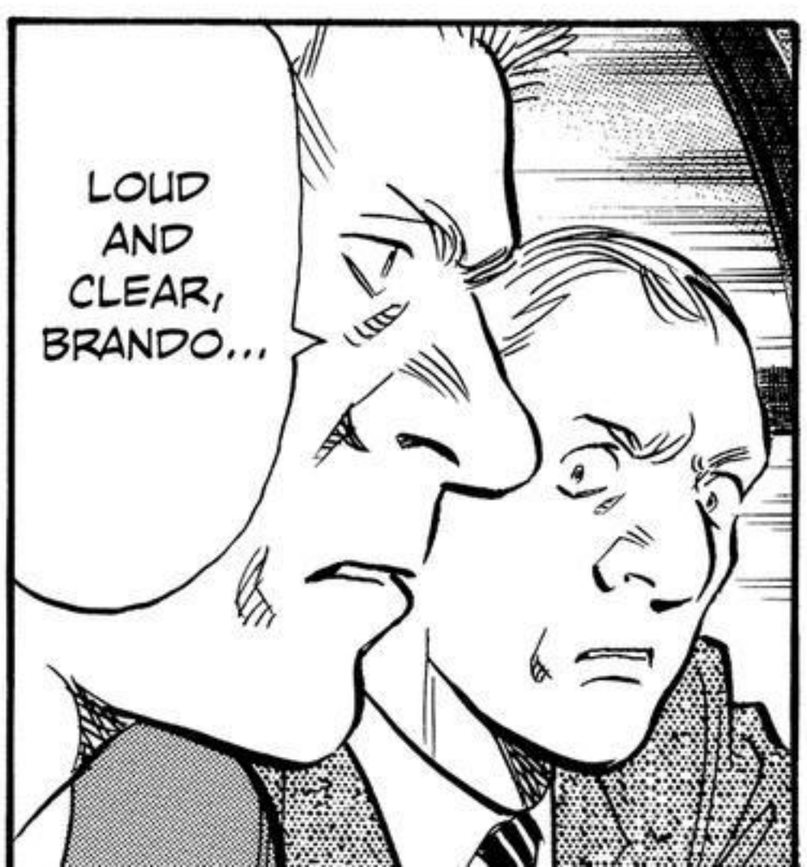
BRANDO...!

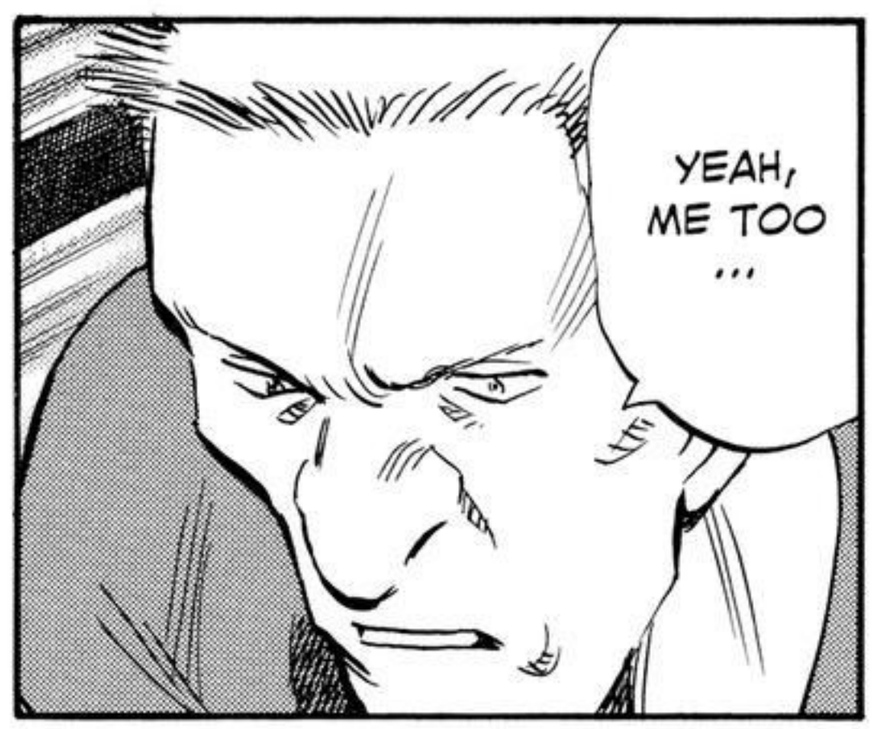
...!!

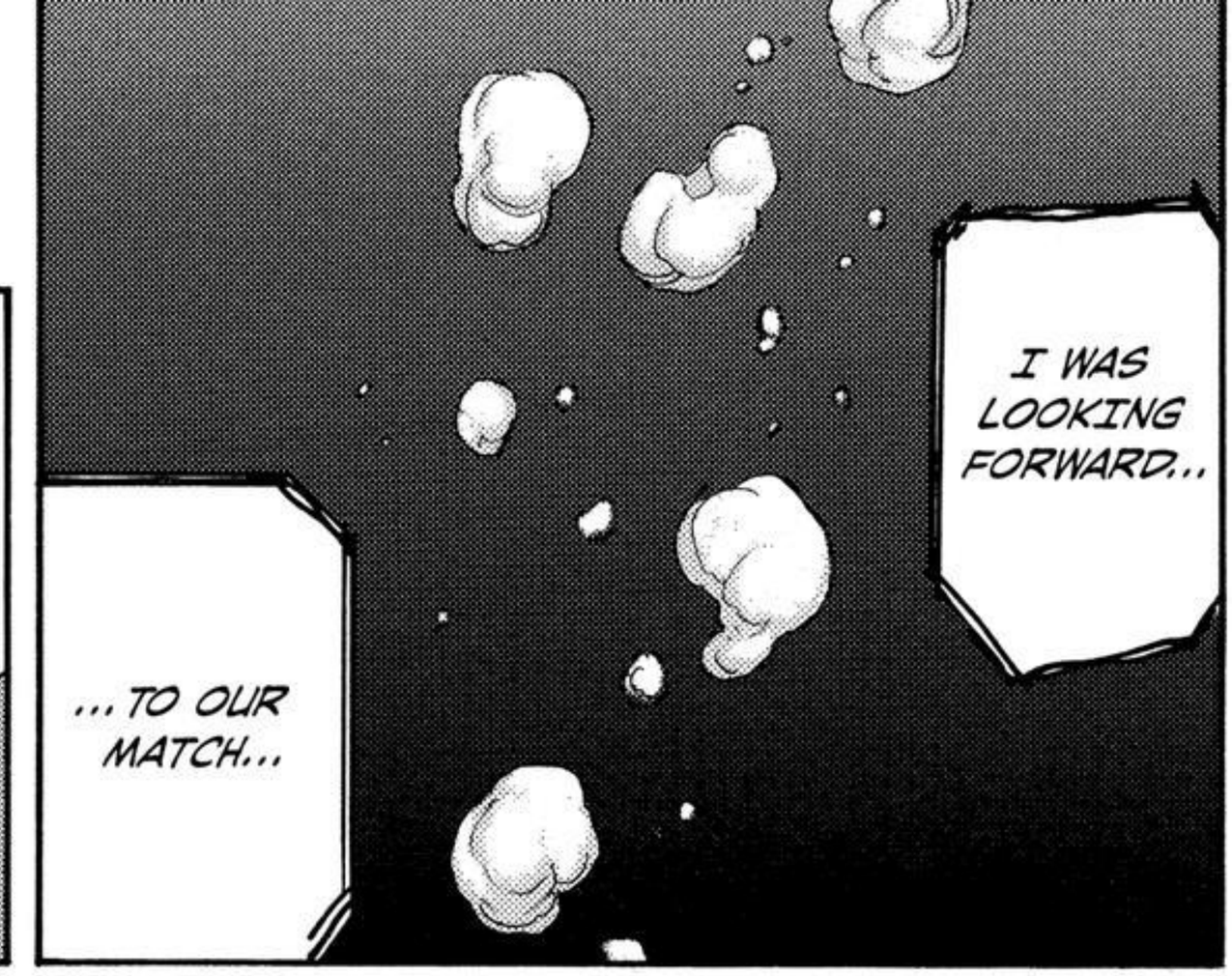

I WON'T...
...BE COMING BACK...


HERCULES... CAN YOU HEAR ME...?

HOLD ON, BRANDO! WE'RE COMING TO HELP!

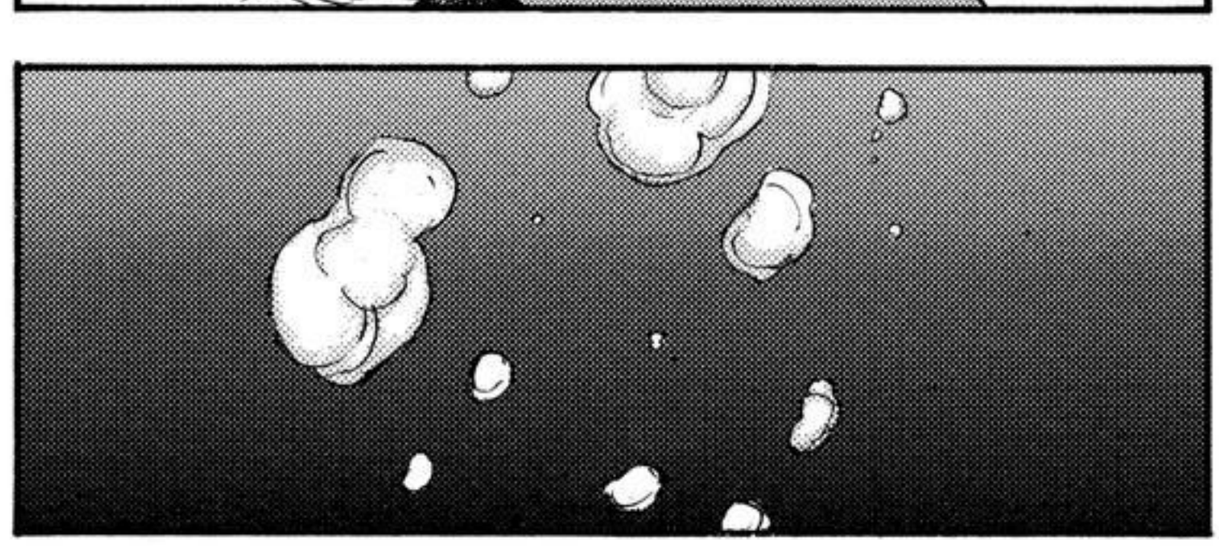

LOUD AND CLEAR, BRANDO...


YEAH, ME TOO ...

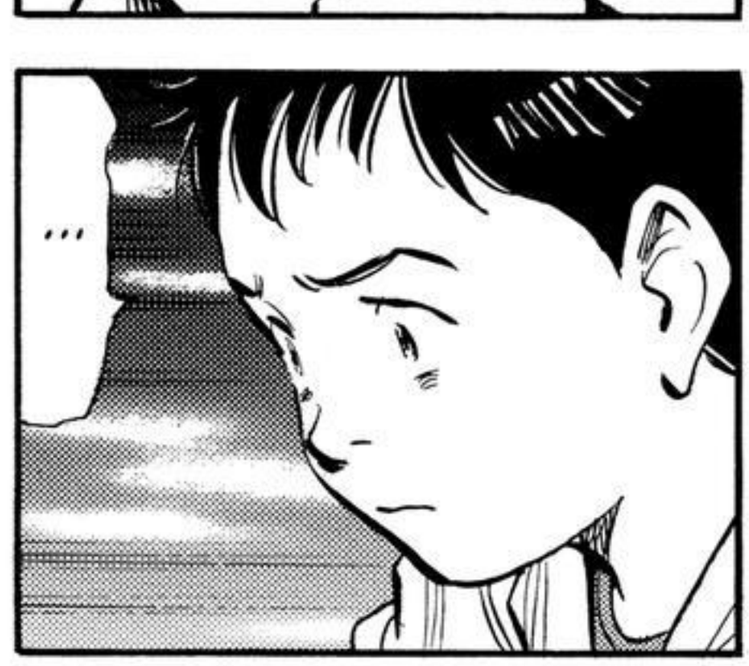

I WAS LOOKING FORWARD...
...TO OUR MATCH...

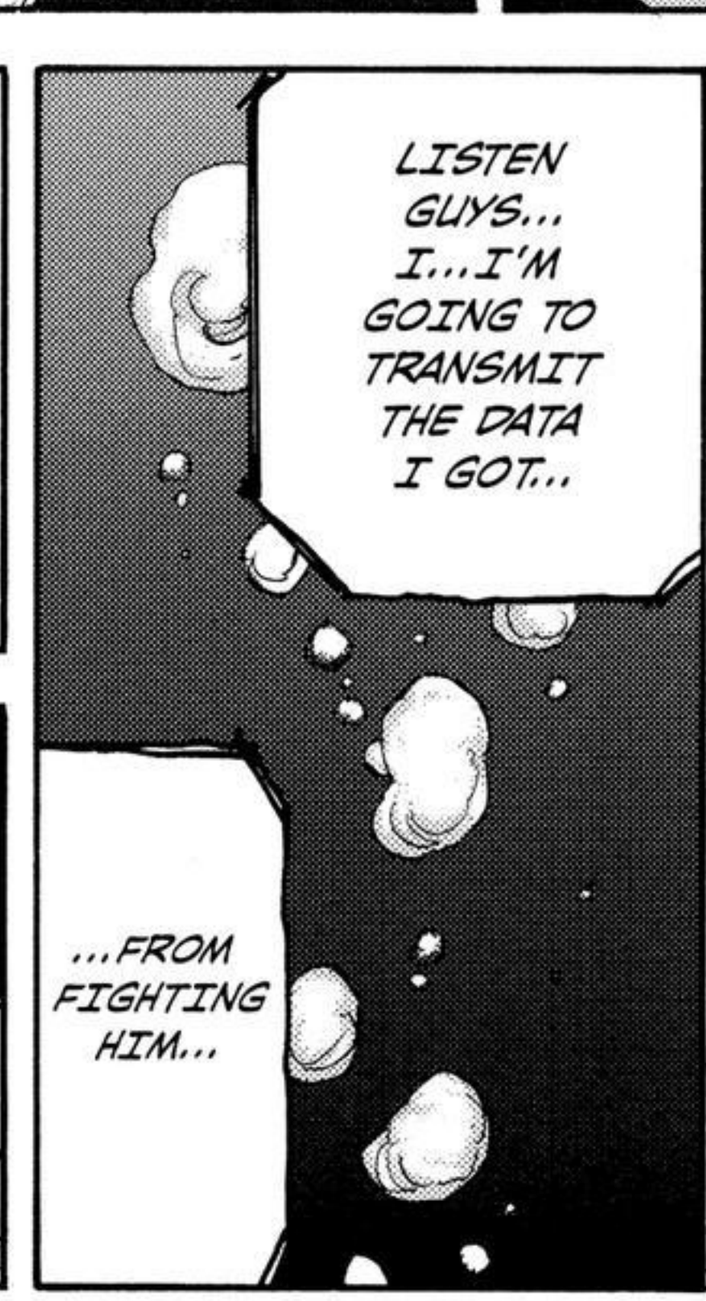
JUST HANG ON, OKAY? WE'RE COMING TO GET YOU!
YEAH? NOT 'TIL THE FAT LADY SINGS, BUDDY...

I WOULD'VE ...
...BEAT YOU, YA KNOW...

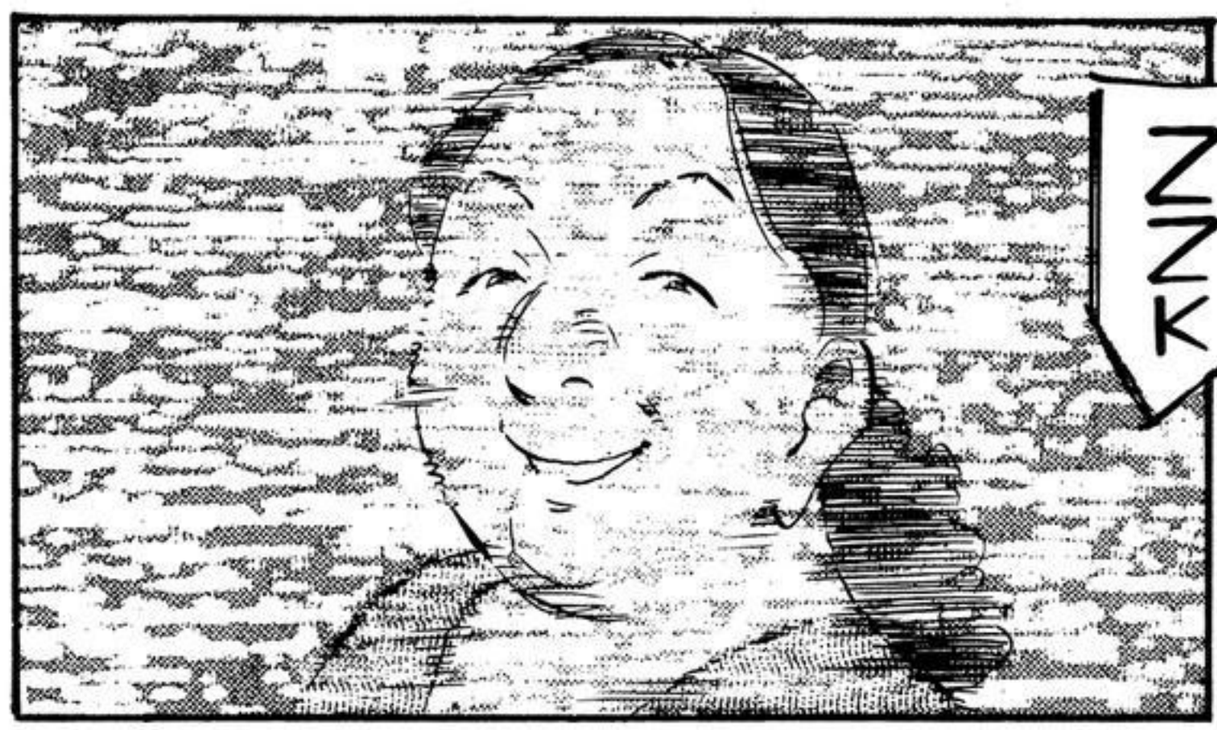


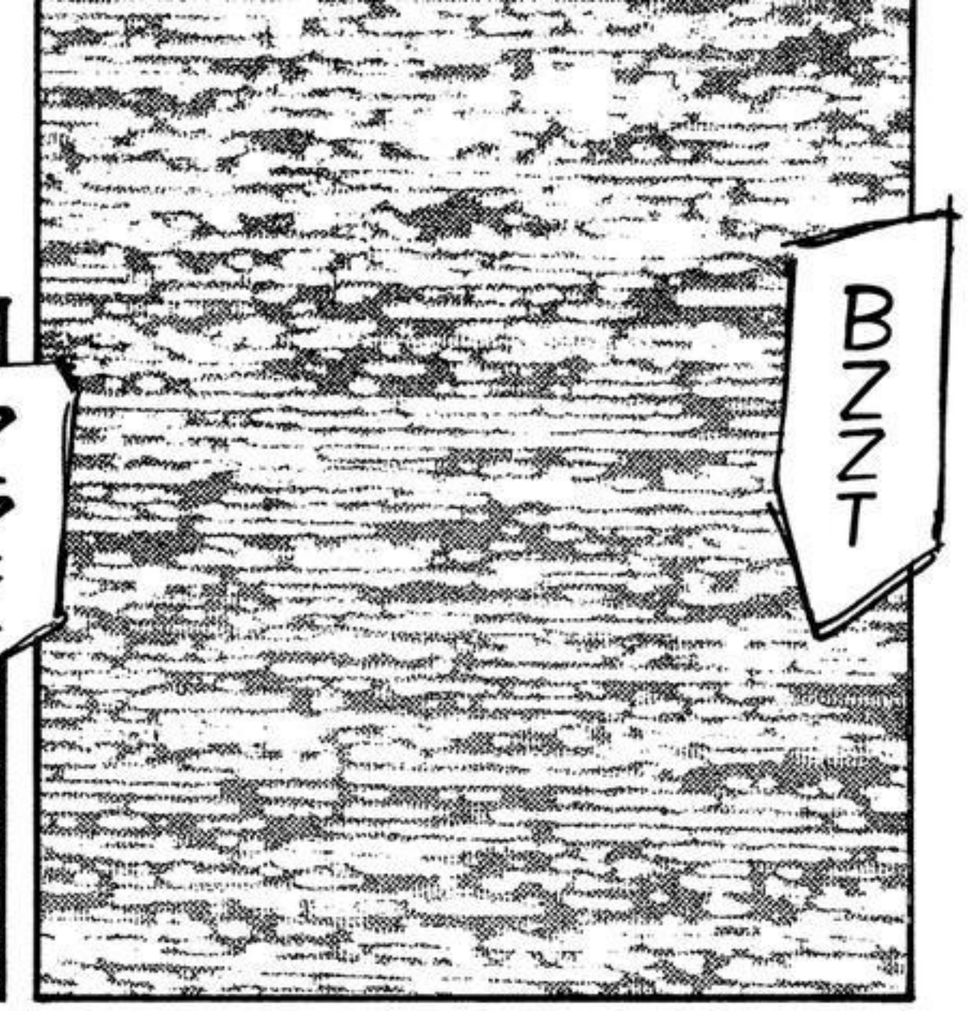
DON'T WORRY ABOUT THAT...

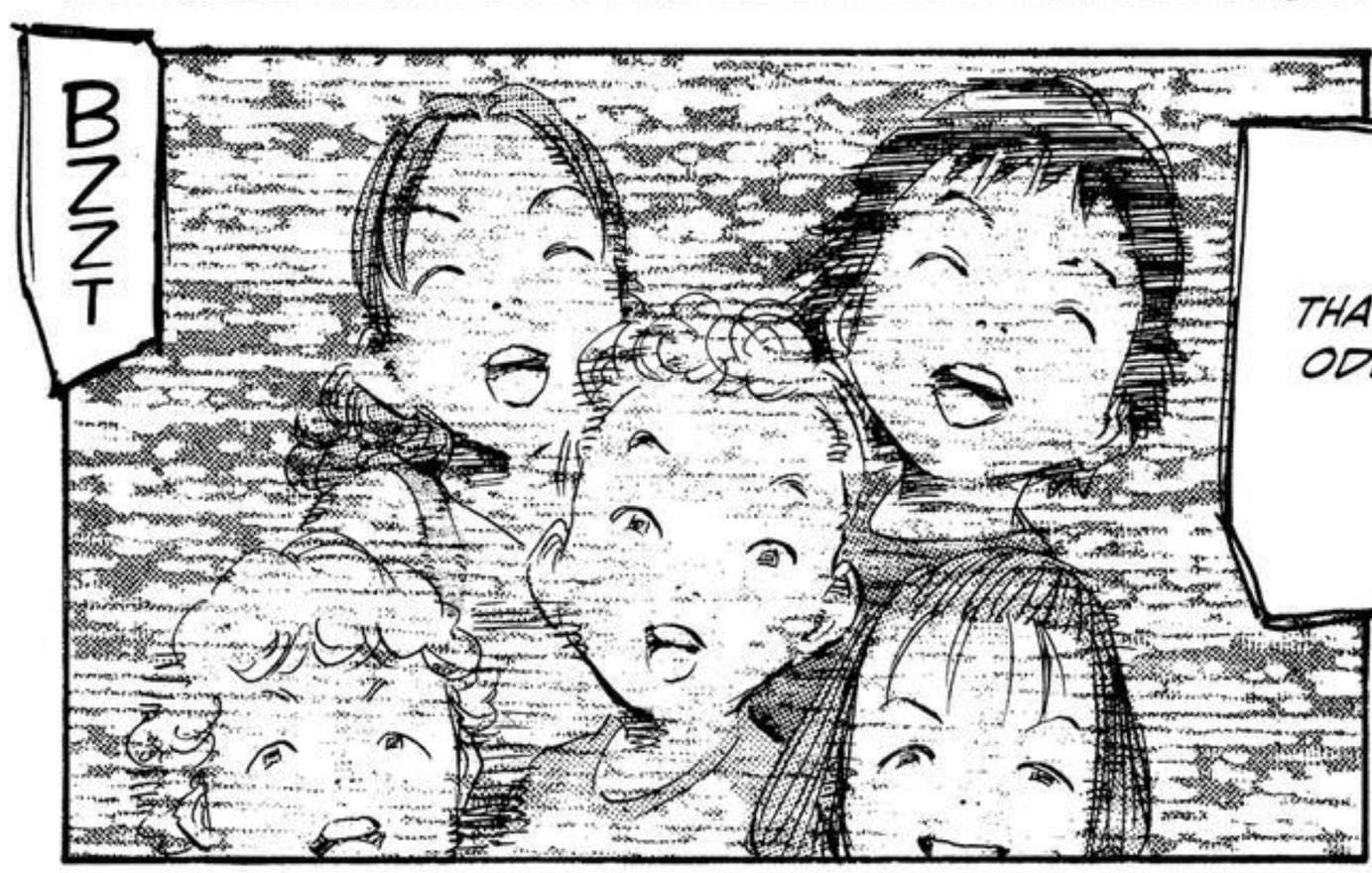

...


LISTEN GUYS... I...I'M GOING TO TRANSMIT THE DATA I GOT...
...FROM FIGHTING HIM...

BRANDON!!

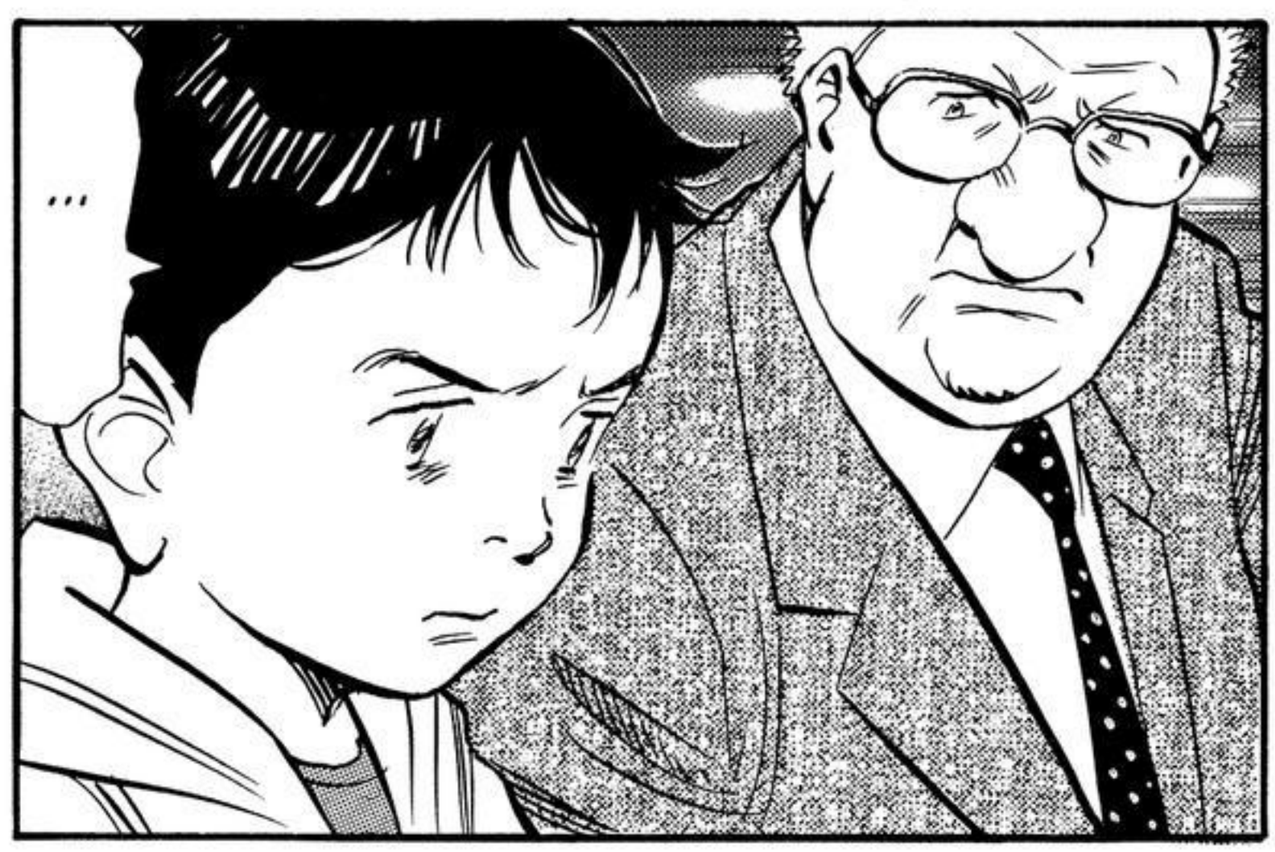

ZZK


BZZT


BZZT

THAT'S ODD...
...

IMAGES OF BRANDO'S FAMILY...


...

HUH?
ZZZTTT

BZZZT

I'M SURE I SWITCHED OFF THE CHANNEL TO MY FAMILY...

WAIT A SEC...

YOU'VE DONE ENOUGH...

IT'S OKAY, BRANDO ...

...THIS IS ODD...

MY CIRCUITS ARE ALL MESSED UP...

BZZZT

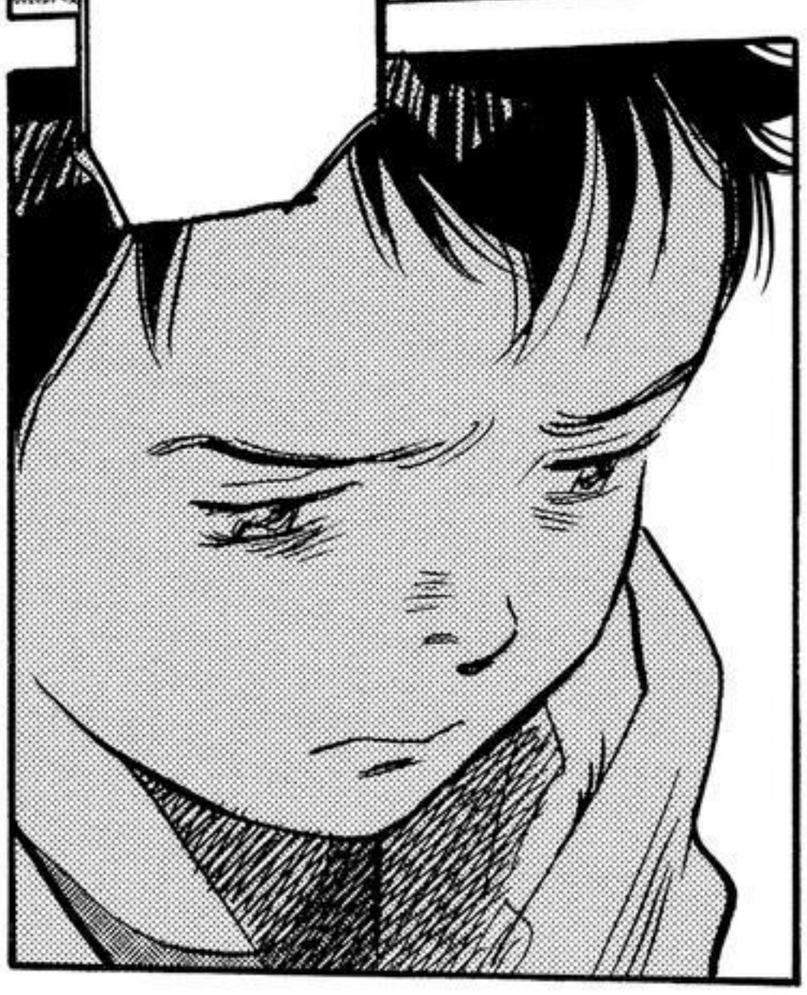
IT'S OKAY...

I CAN'T SEEM TO TRANSMIT THE DATA...

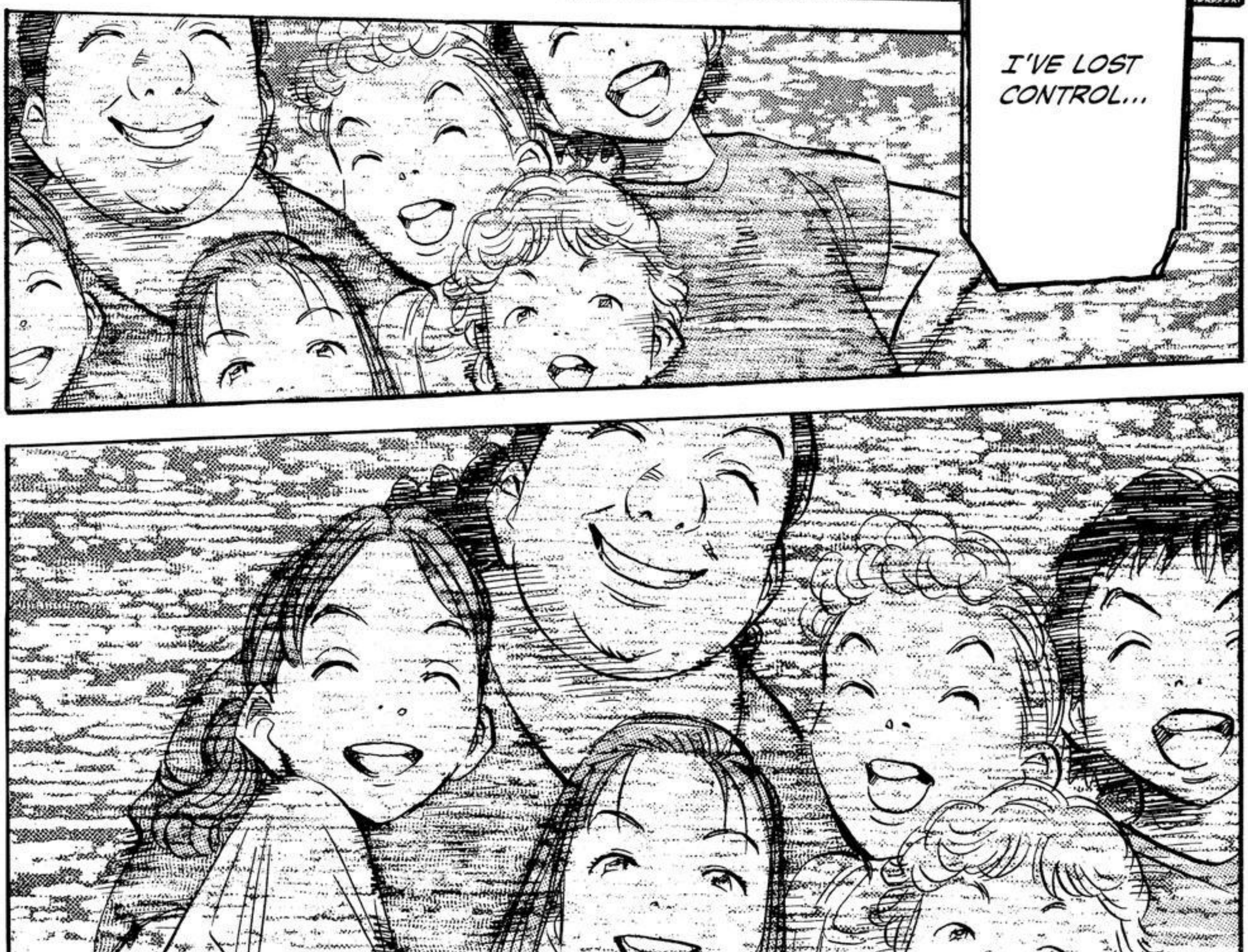
I'M SORRY, GUYS...

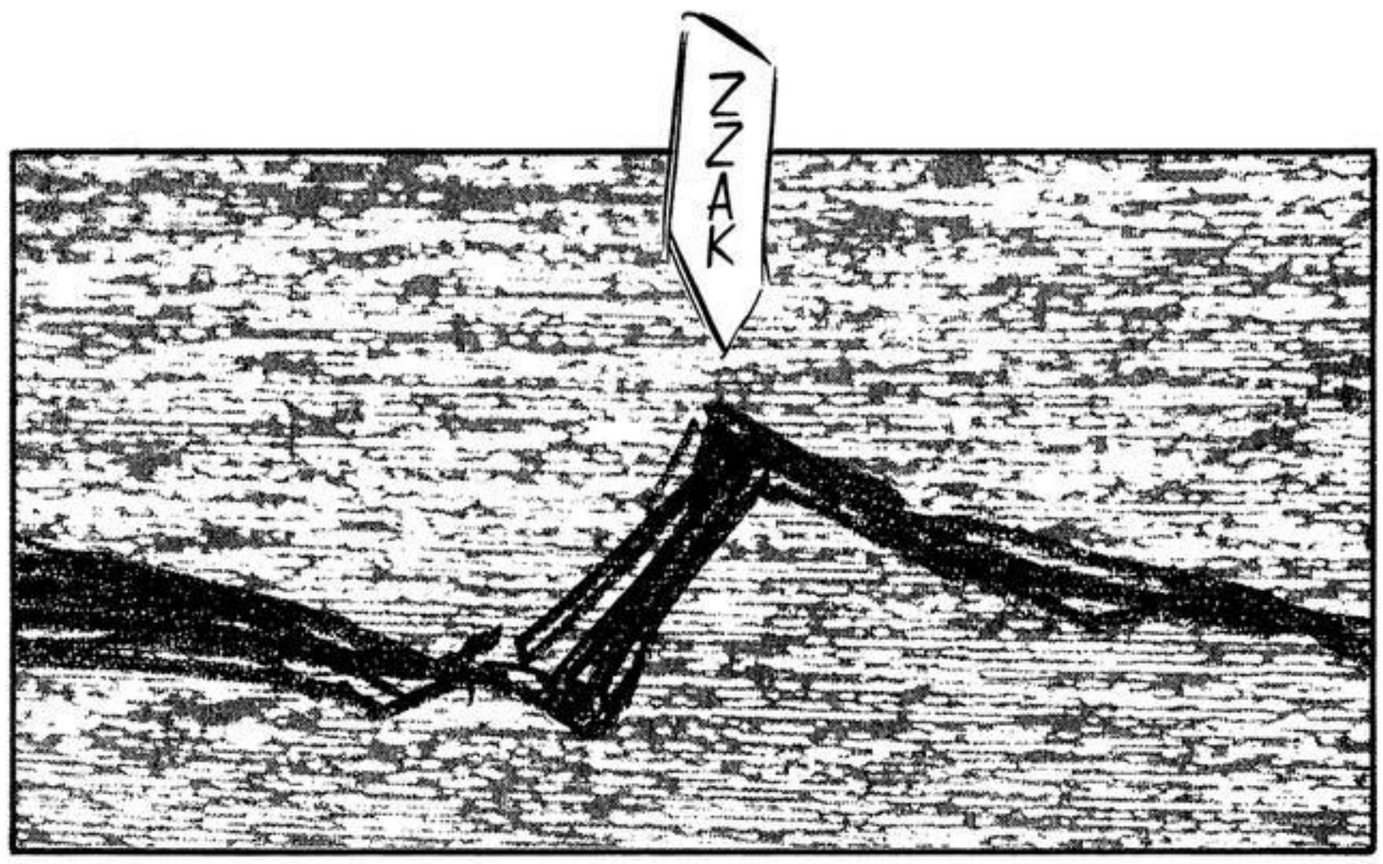
I DON'T KNOW WHY...

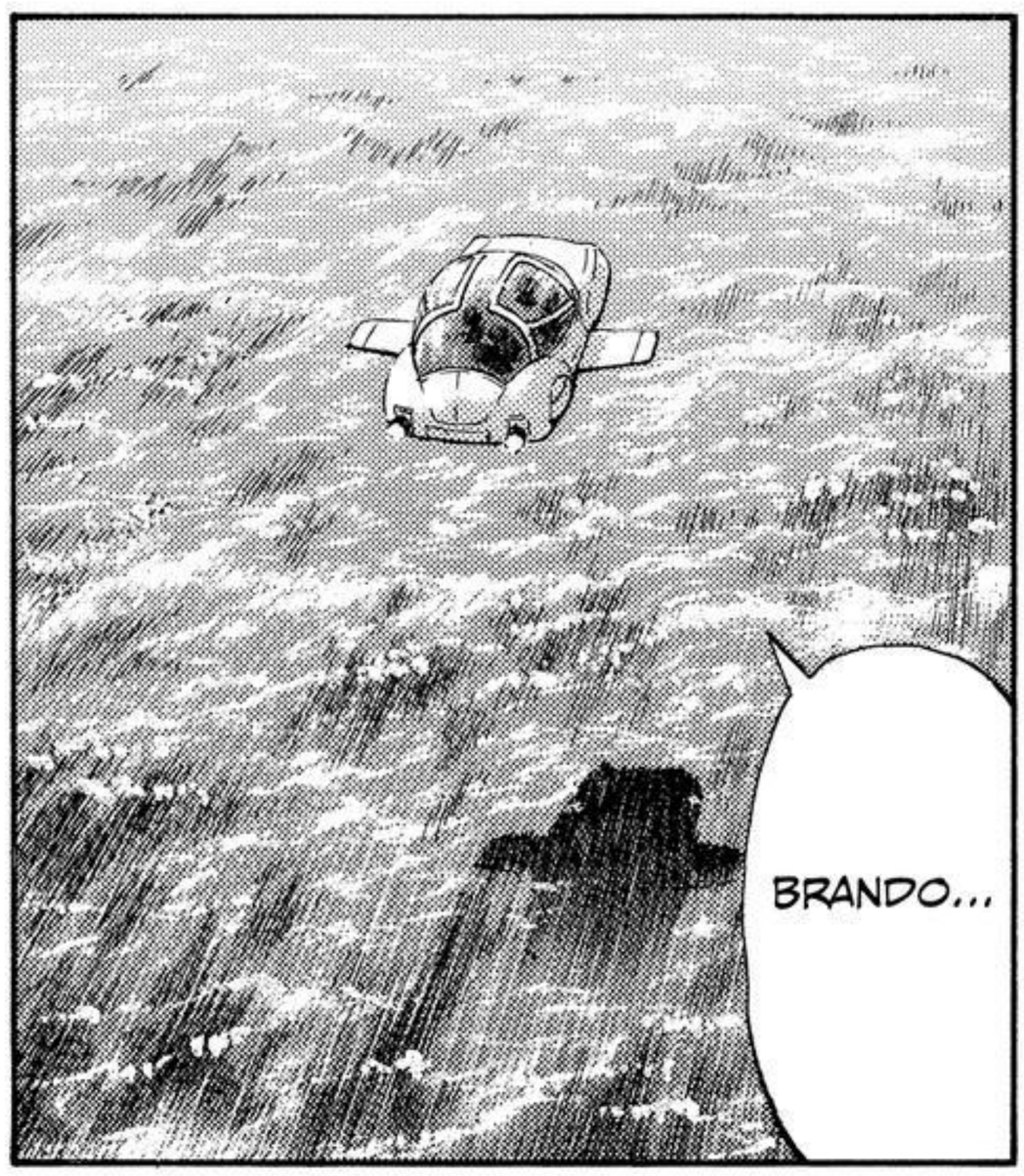
I'M... SORRY, GUYS...

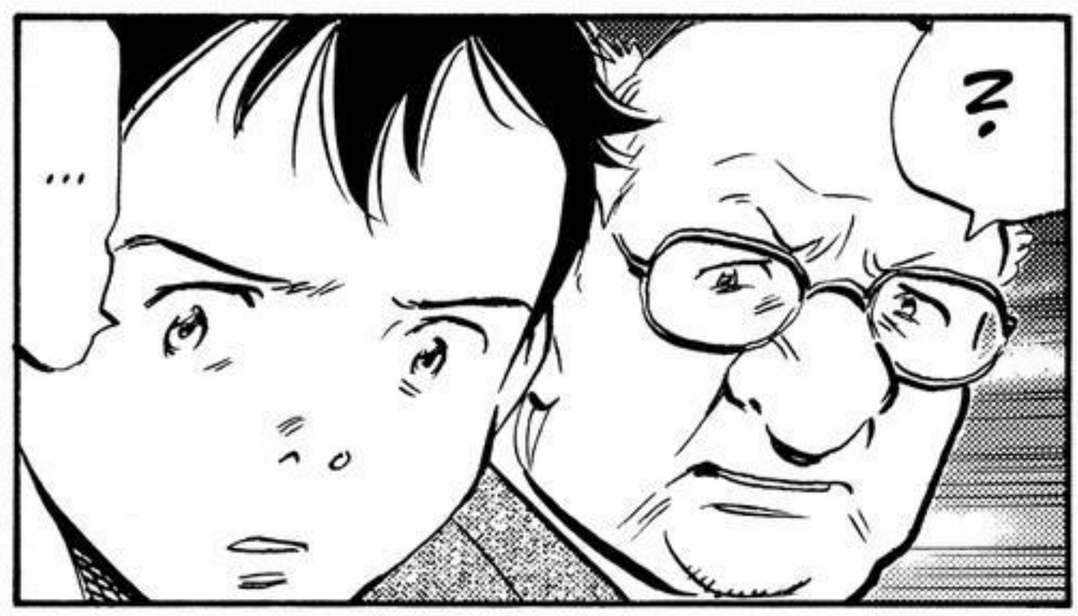


I'VE LOST CONTROL...




ZZAK


BRANDO...

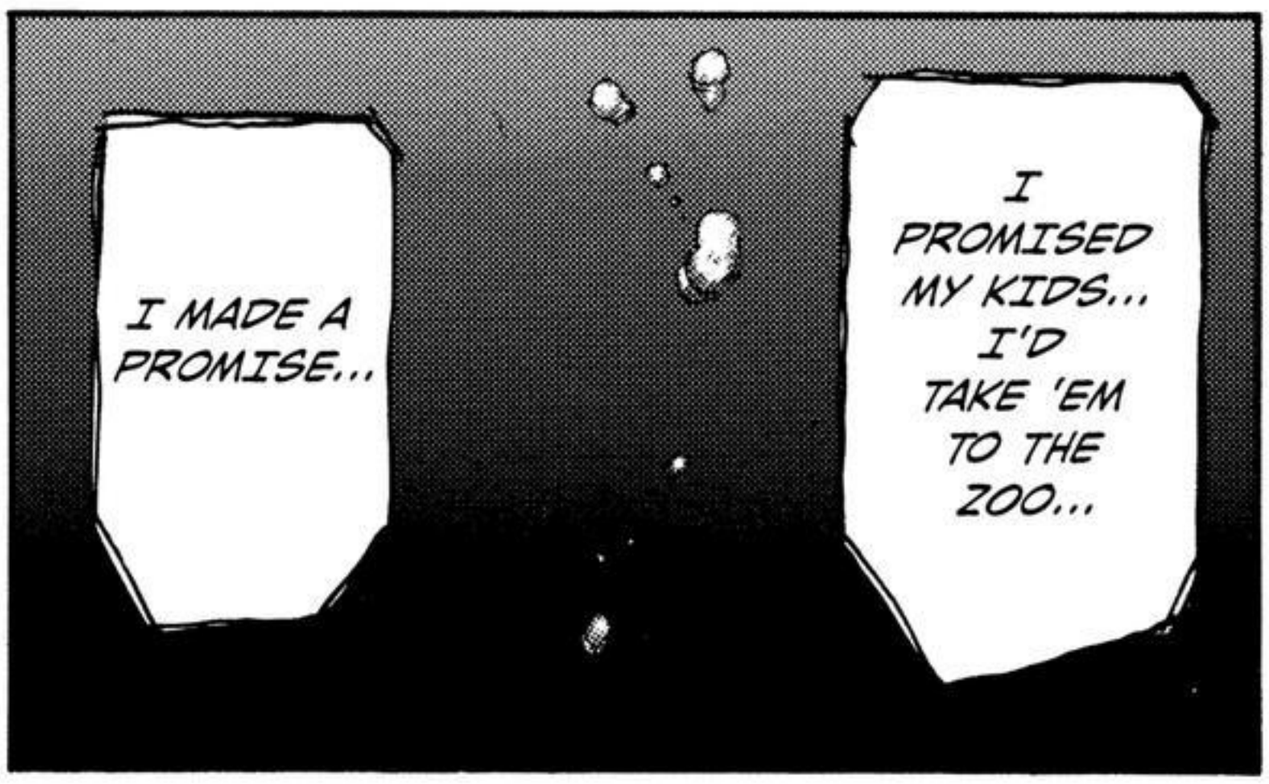

...
?

YES...

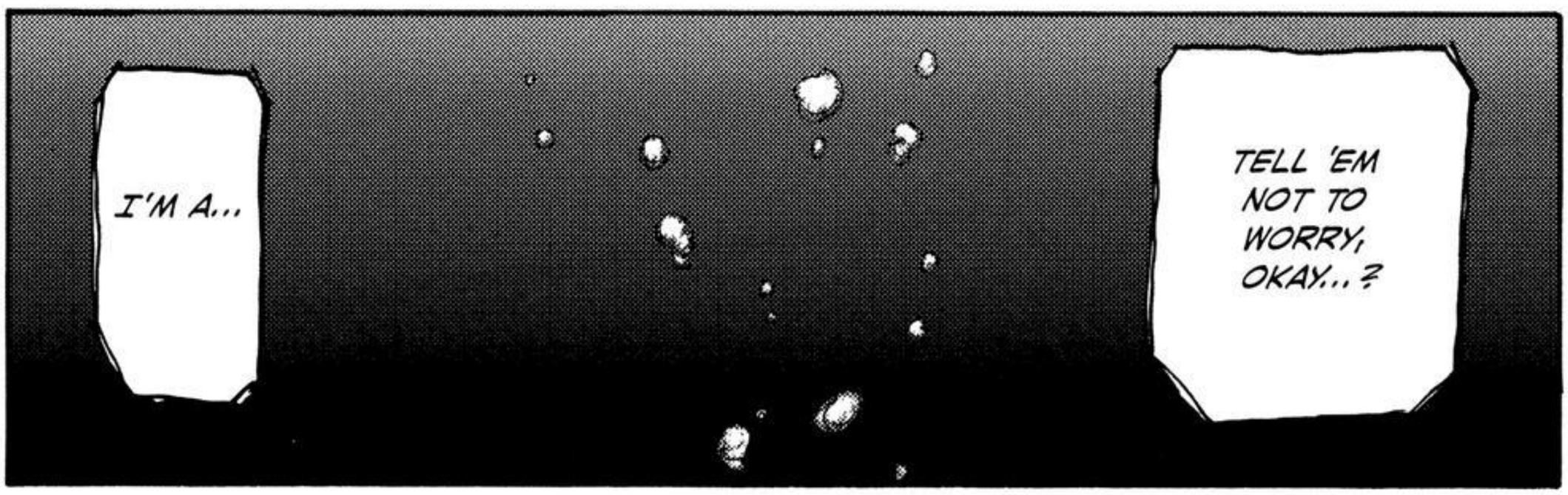
INSPECTOR GESICHT...

BRANDO!!

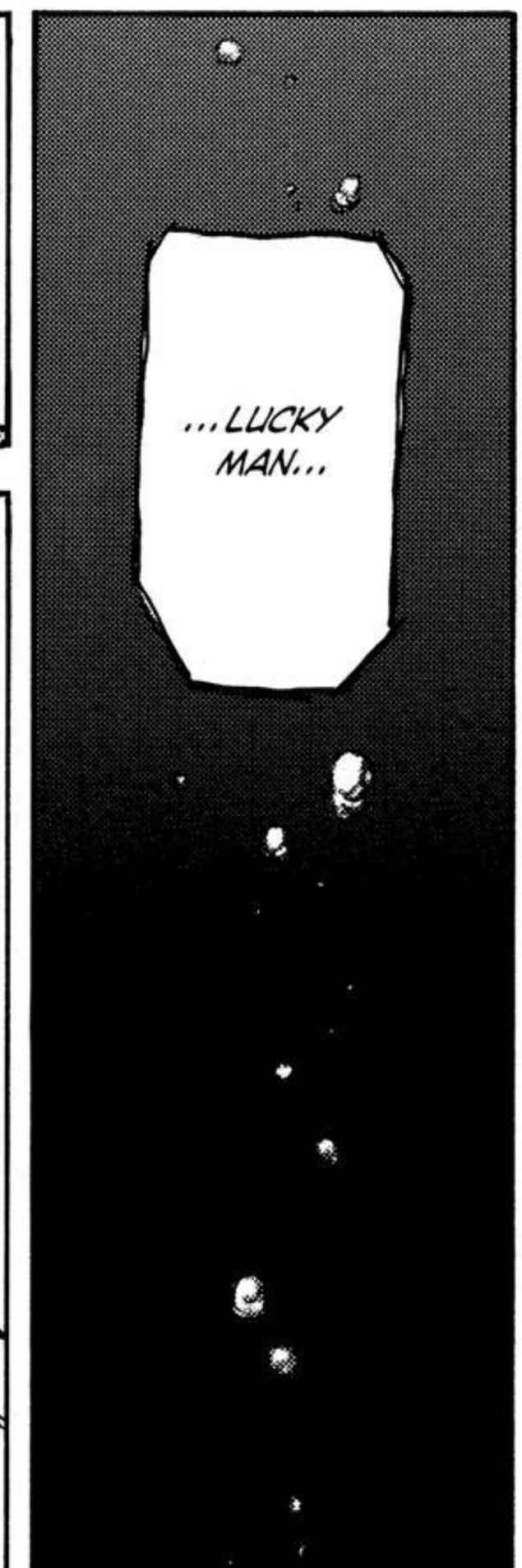
I TOLD YOU I'M A LUCKY MAN...


I MADE A PROMISE...
I PROMISED MY KIDS... I'D TAKE 'EM TO THE ZOO...

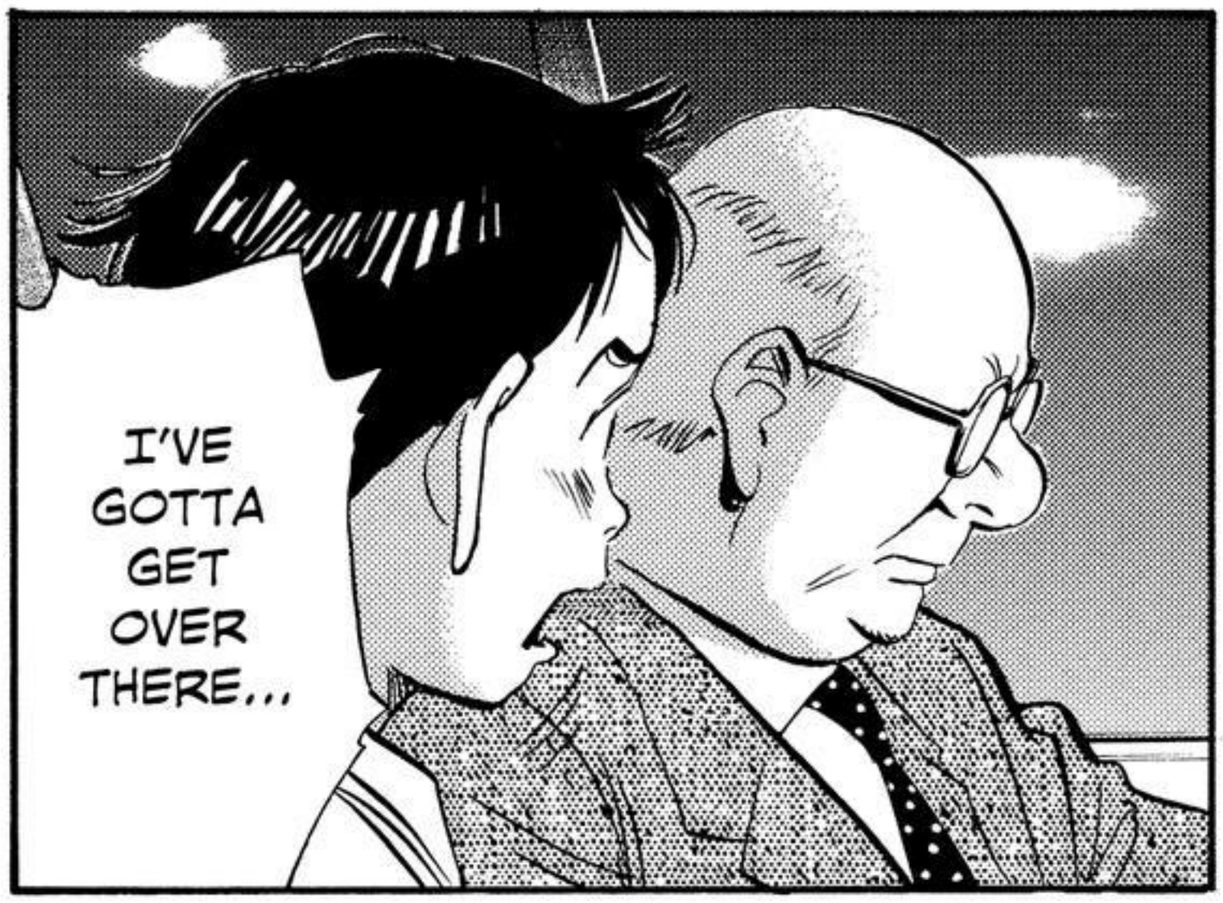
YES...


I'M A...
TELL 'EM NOT TO WORRY, OKAY...?

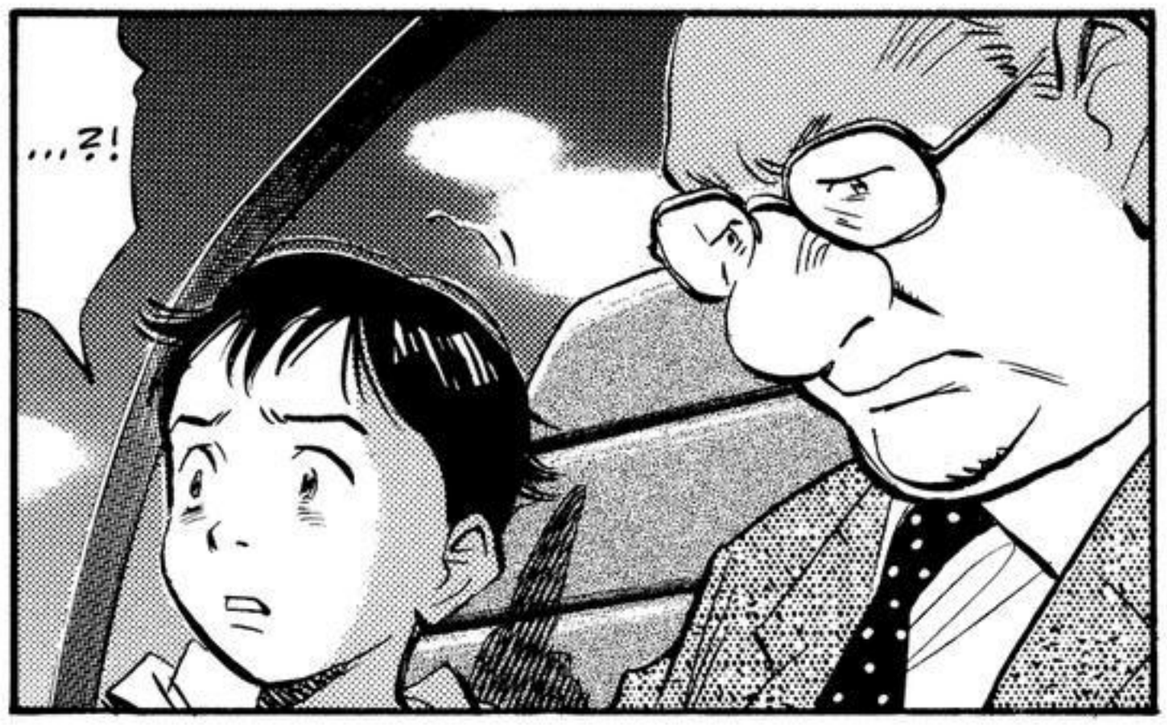
BRANDO ...

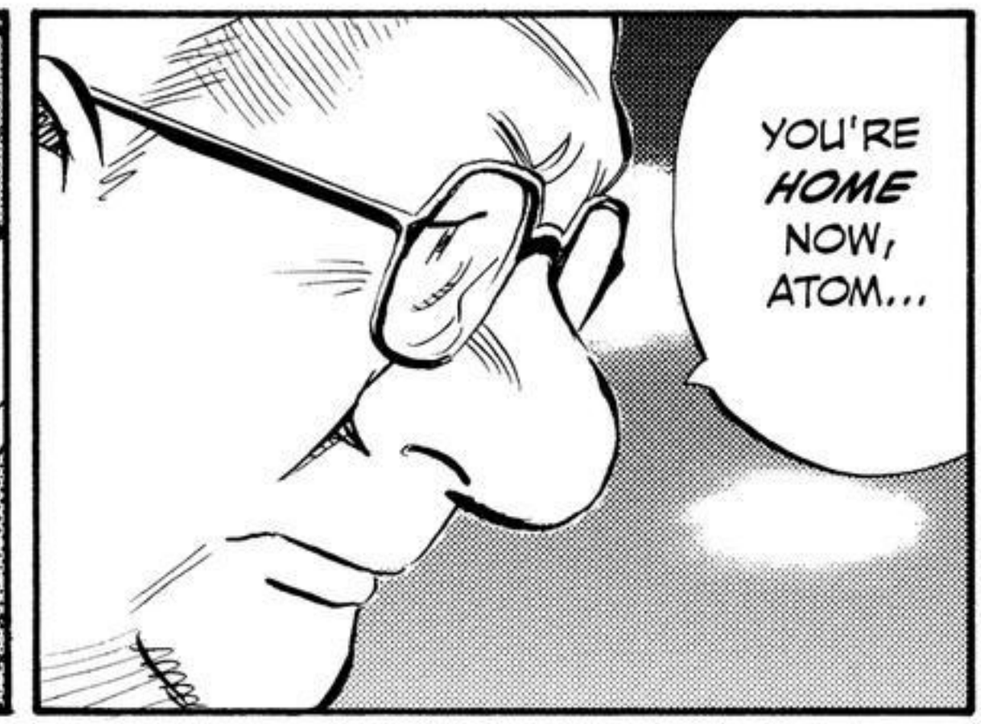

...LUCKY MAN...

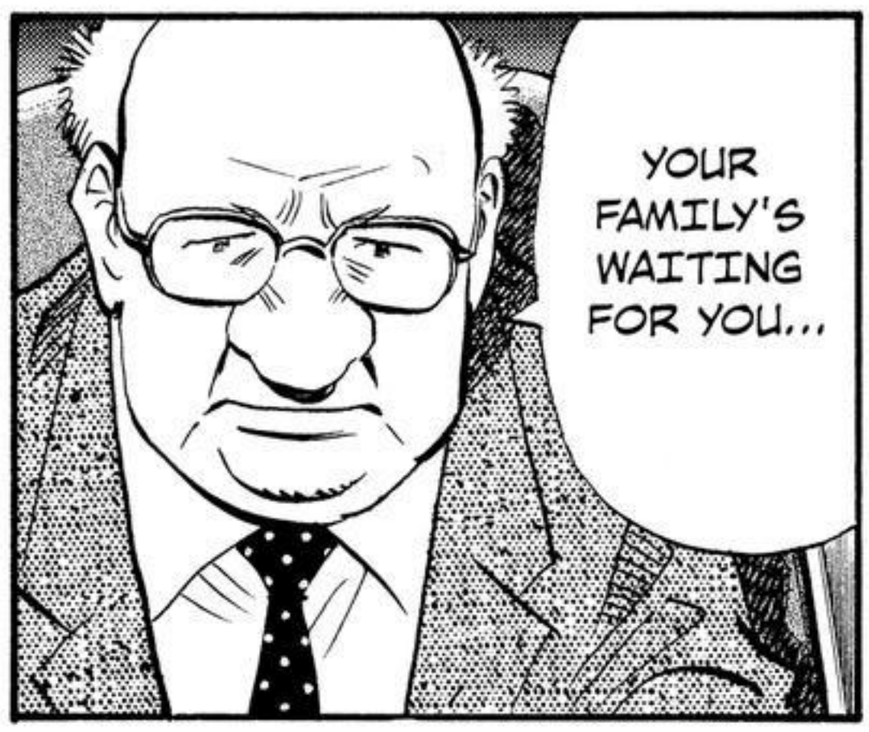
BRANDO!!!

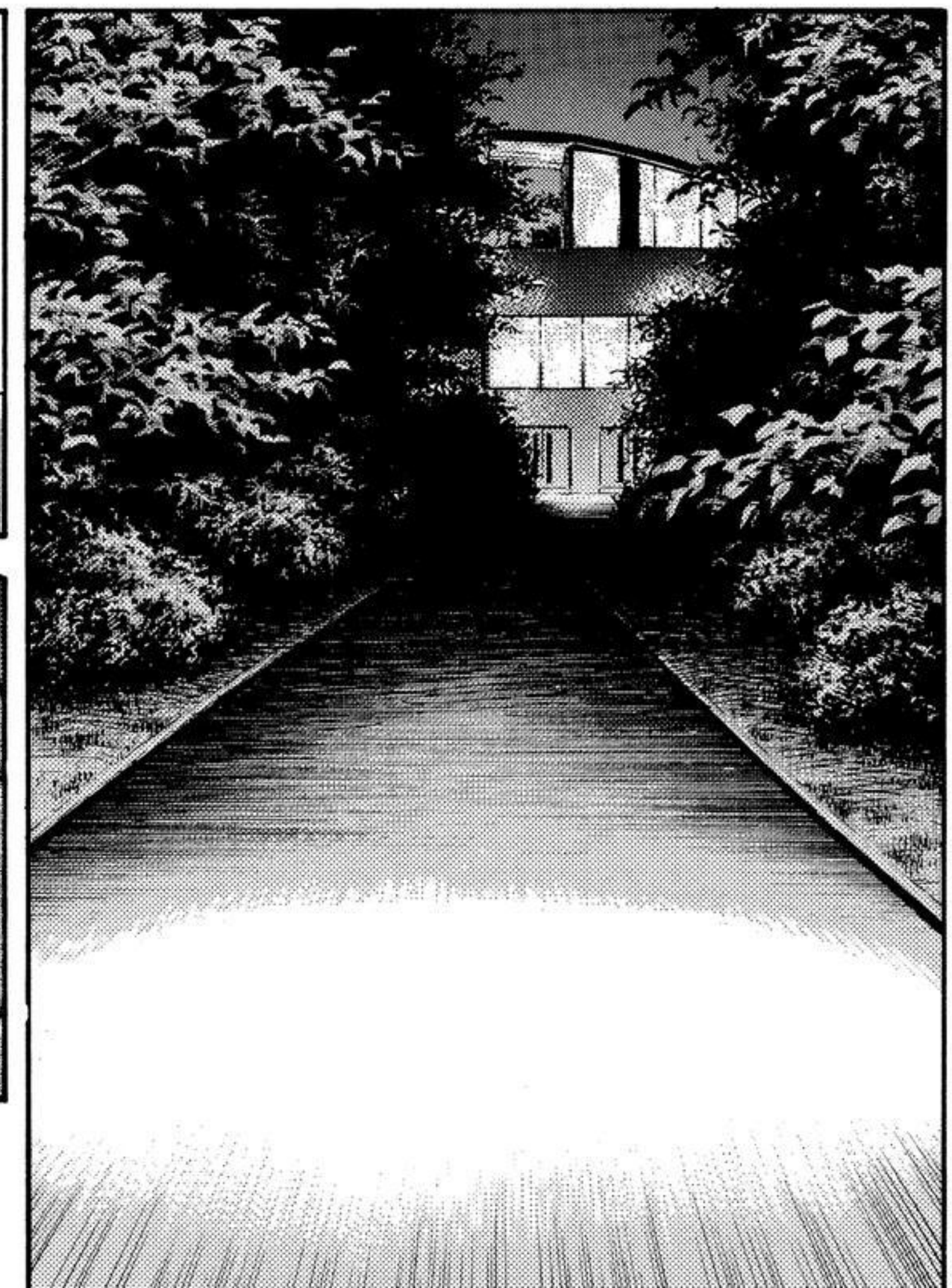

I'VE GOTTA GET OVER THERE...

I...

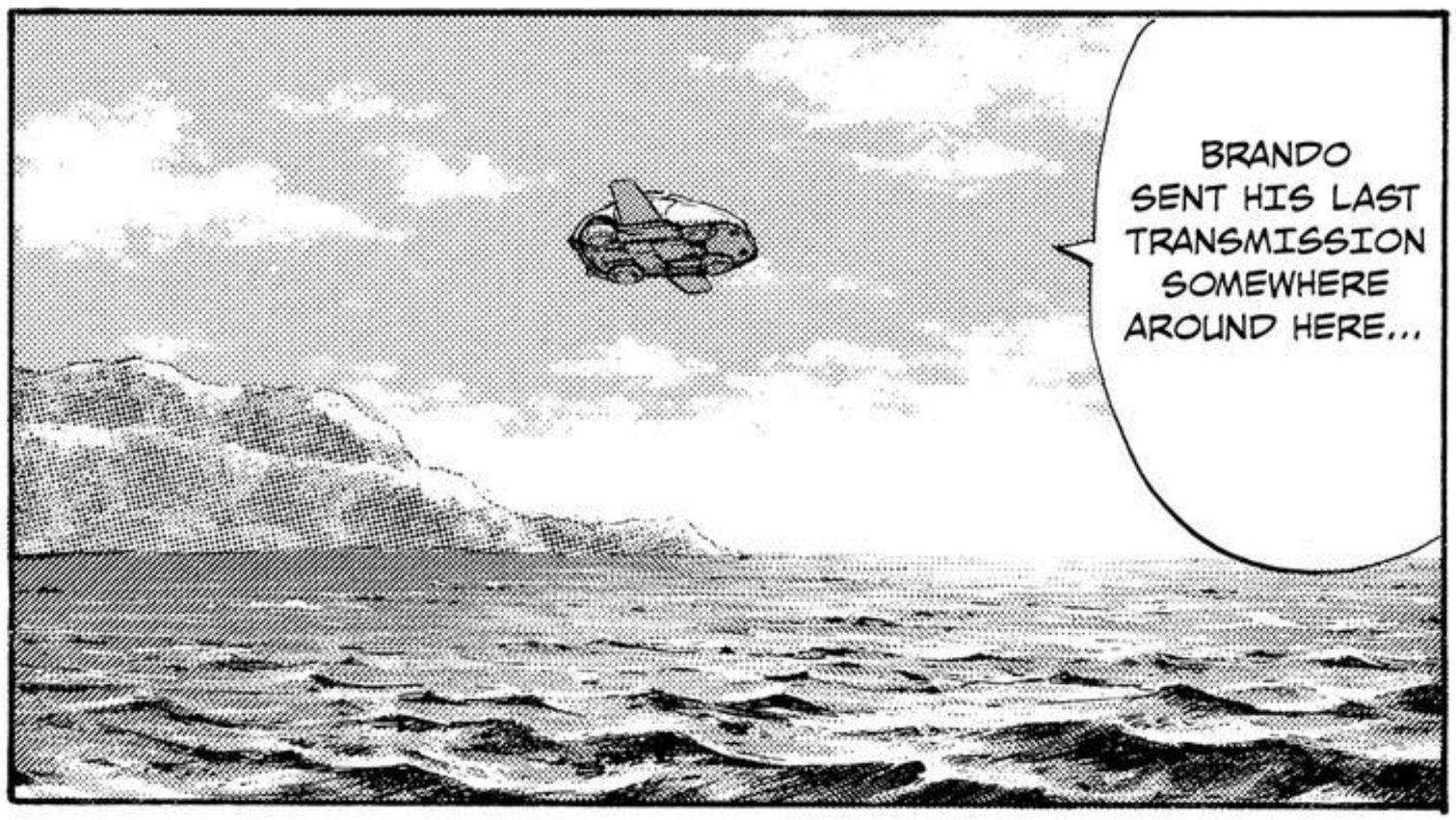

...?!


YOU'RE *HOME* NOW, ATOM...

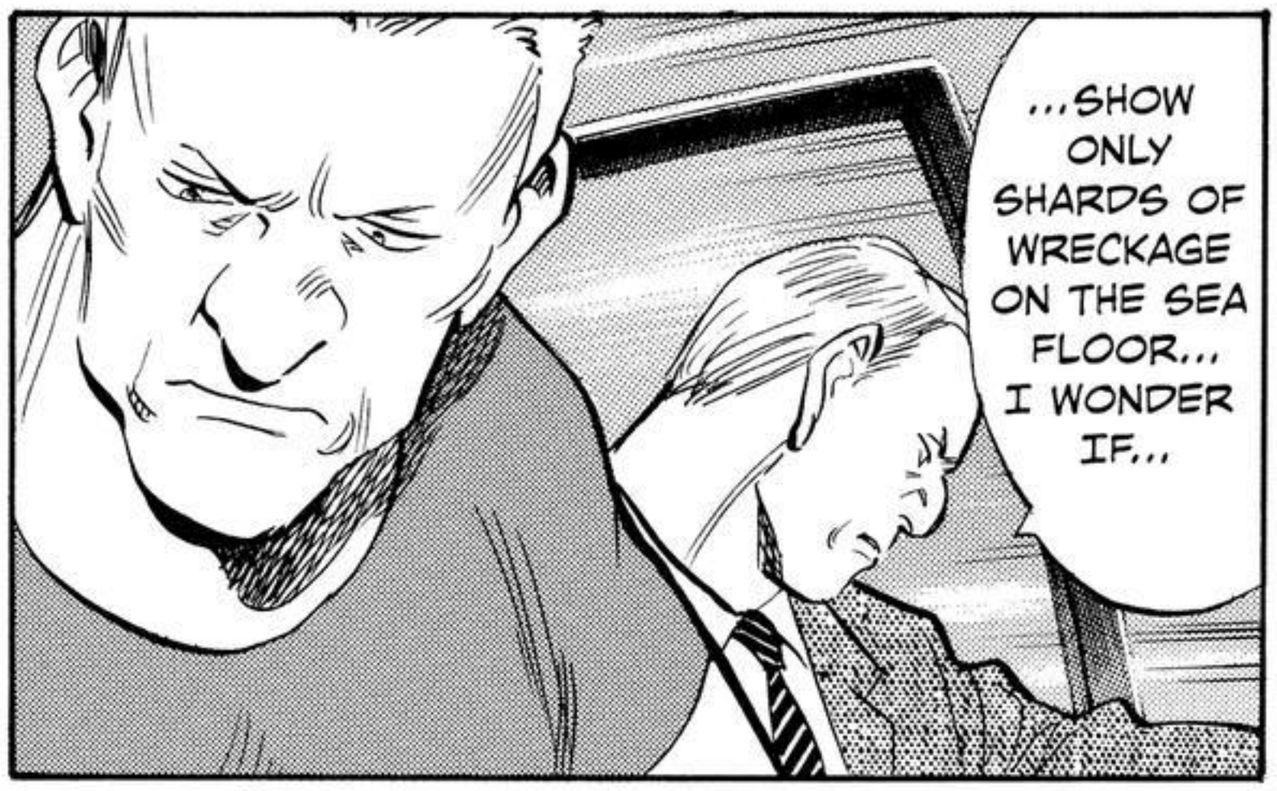

YOUR FAMILY'S WAITING FOR YOU...

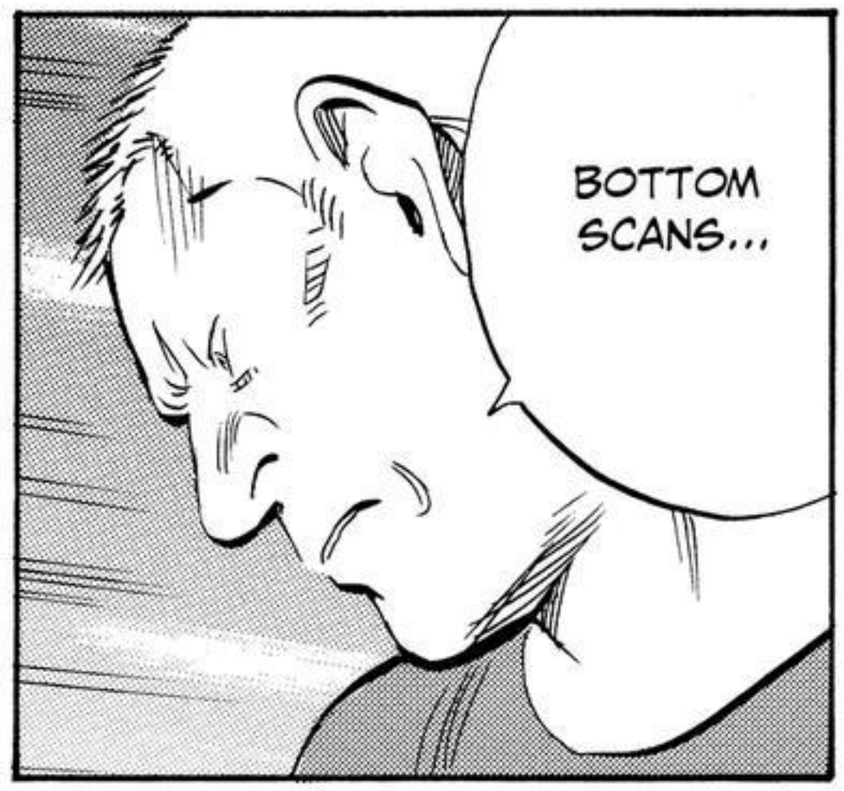


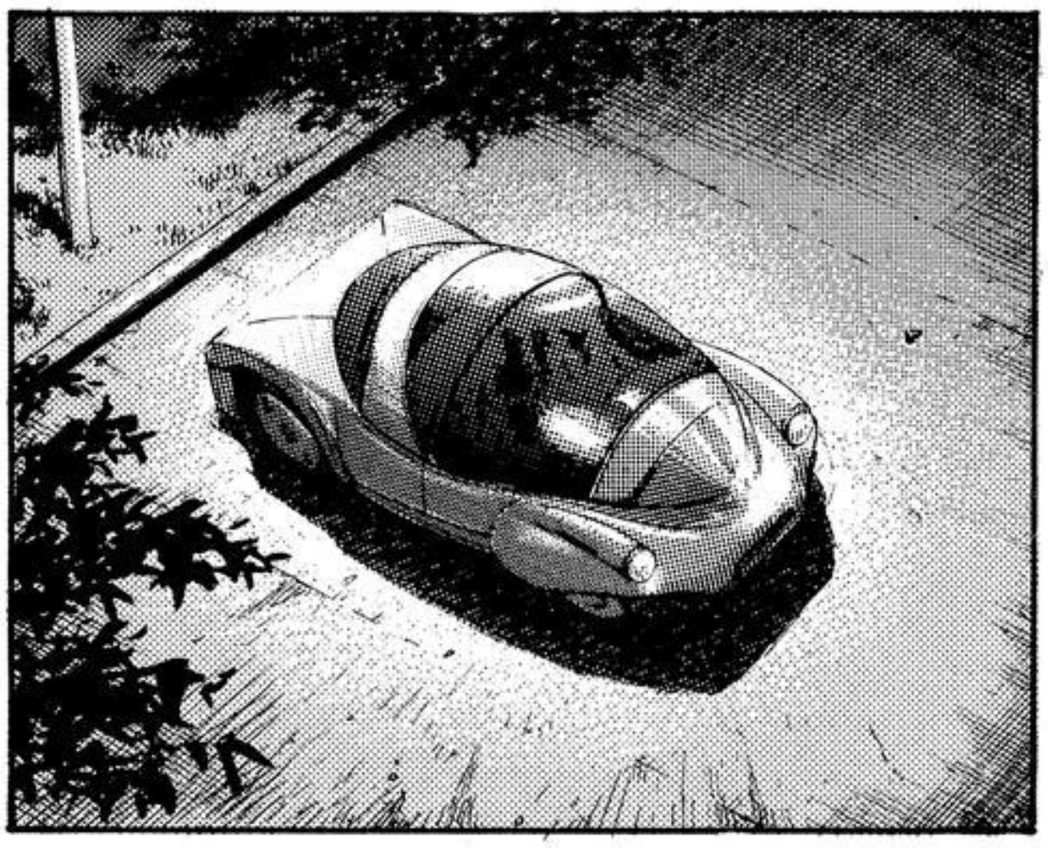
ARE YOU REALLY SURE YOU WANT TO GO?



...IS THIS HUGE OIL SLICK...







...DID YOU NOTICE THAT FOR A FRACTION OF SECOND THERE WAS SOMETHING MIXED IN WITH THEM...?

JUST NOW WHEN BRANDO SENT US IMAGES OF HIS FAMILY...
INSPECTOR GESICHT... HERCULES...

...?

NO, NOT BRANDO...

?

NO, ATOM... WE DIDN'T... WAS BRANDO TRYING TO TELL US SOMETHING...?

SO IT WAS SOMETHING ONLY YOUR MORE SOPHISTICATED SENSORS COULD DETECT...?

WHAT COULD IT BE ...?

IT WAS FROM A DIFFERENT SOURCE. AN AI OUT OF CONTROL...

LET'S SEE...

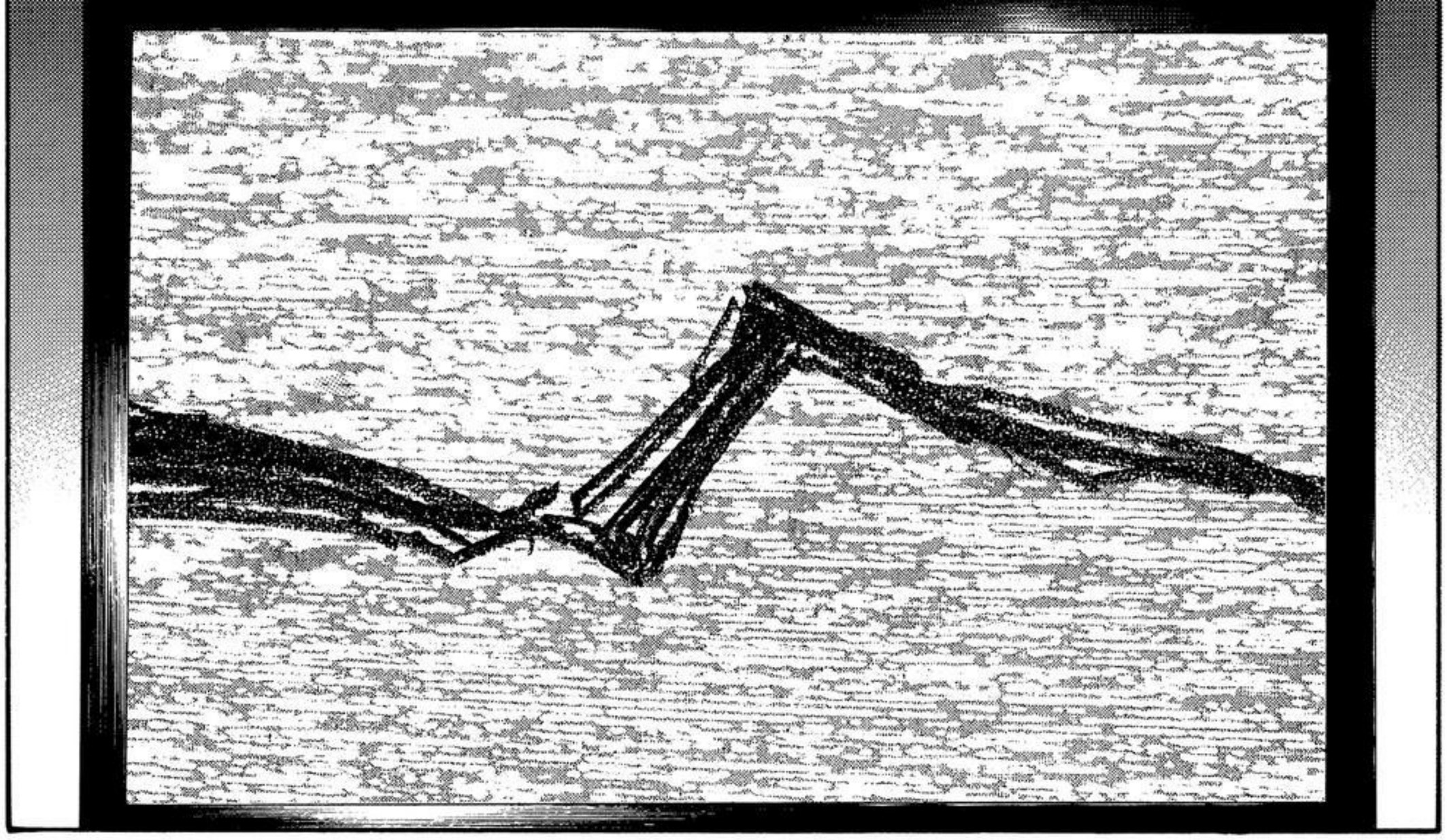
I'LL TRY...

CAN YOU BRING IT UP ON THE MONITOR, ATOM?

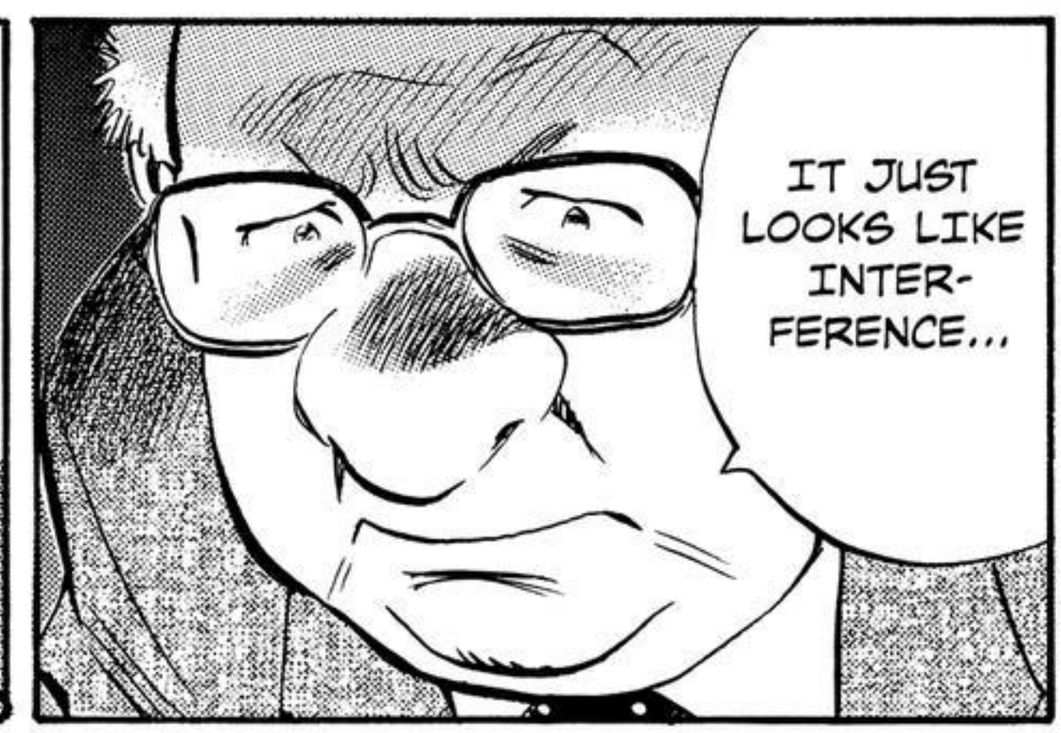
IT APPEARS IN THE NEXT INSTANT...

...

WHAT IN THE WORLD...?



IT'S NOT A SOLID IMAGE...


IT JUST LOOKS LIKE INTER-FERENCE...

DEATH ...?

I'VE NO IDEA WHAT YOU MEAN, ATOM...

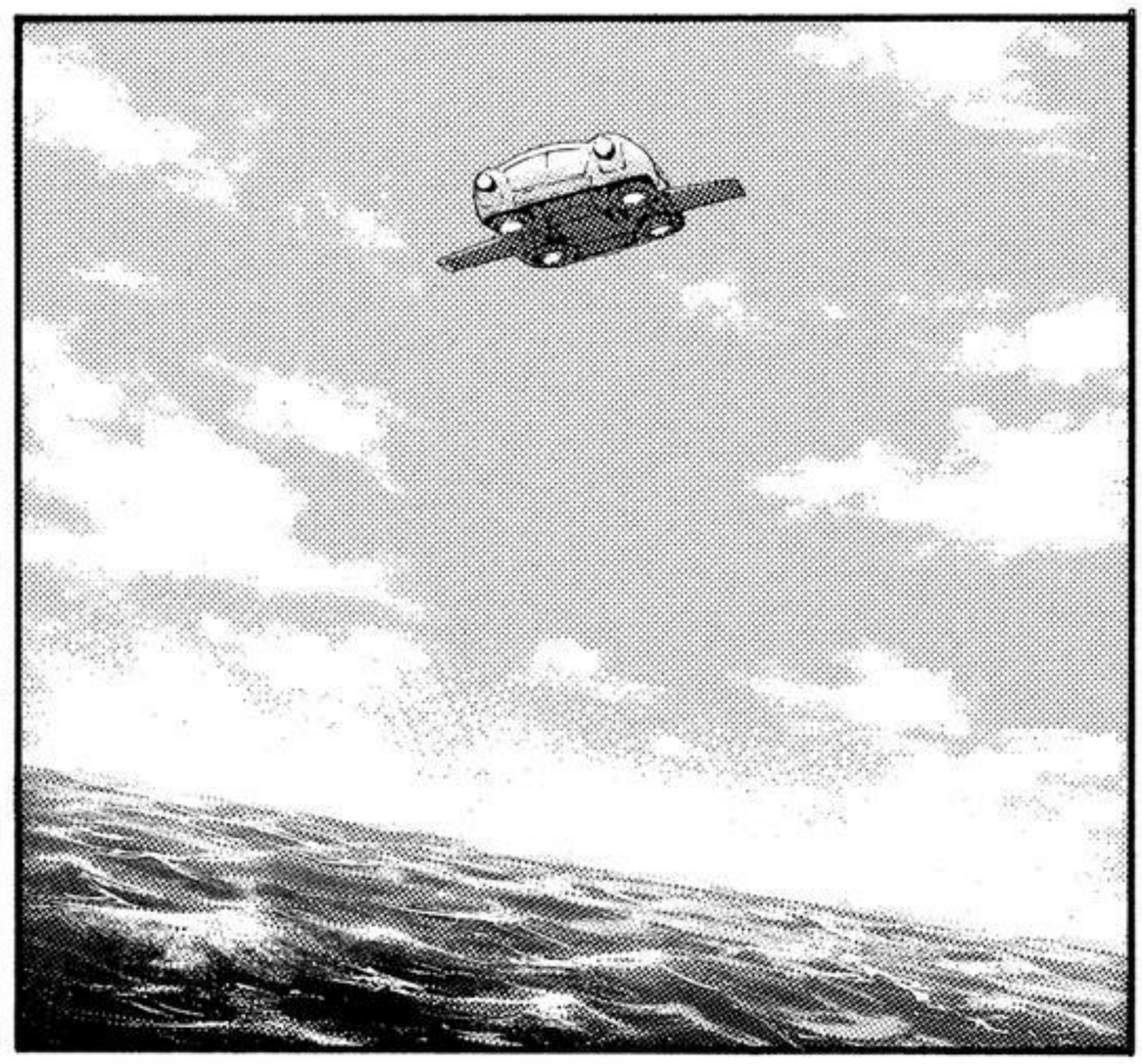
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

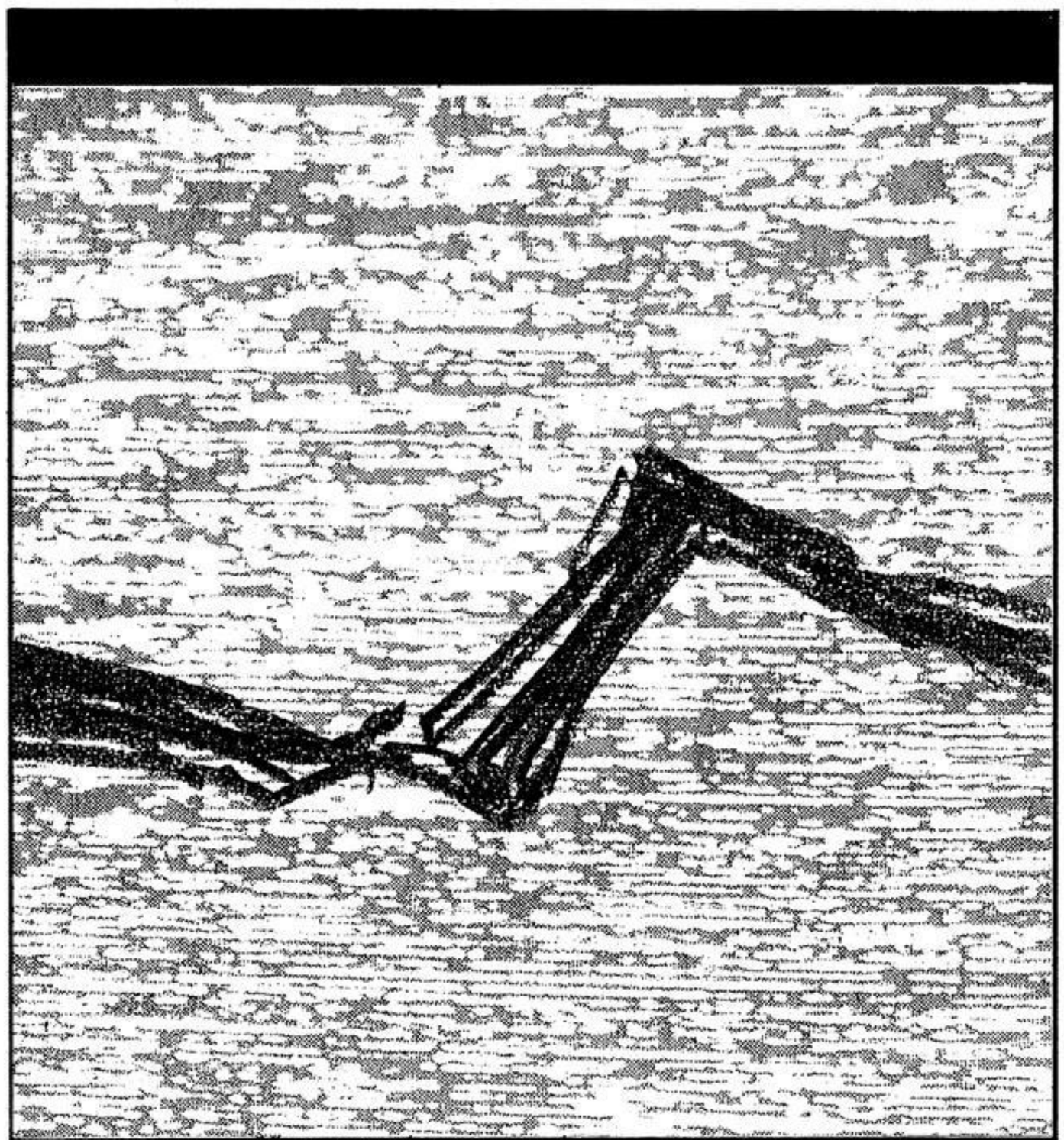
WHAT DO HUMANS CALL SOMETHING LIKE THIS...

...OR MAYBE EMOTION...

WHAT?!

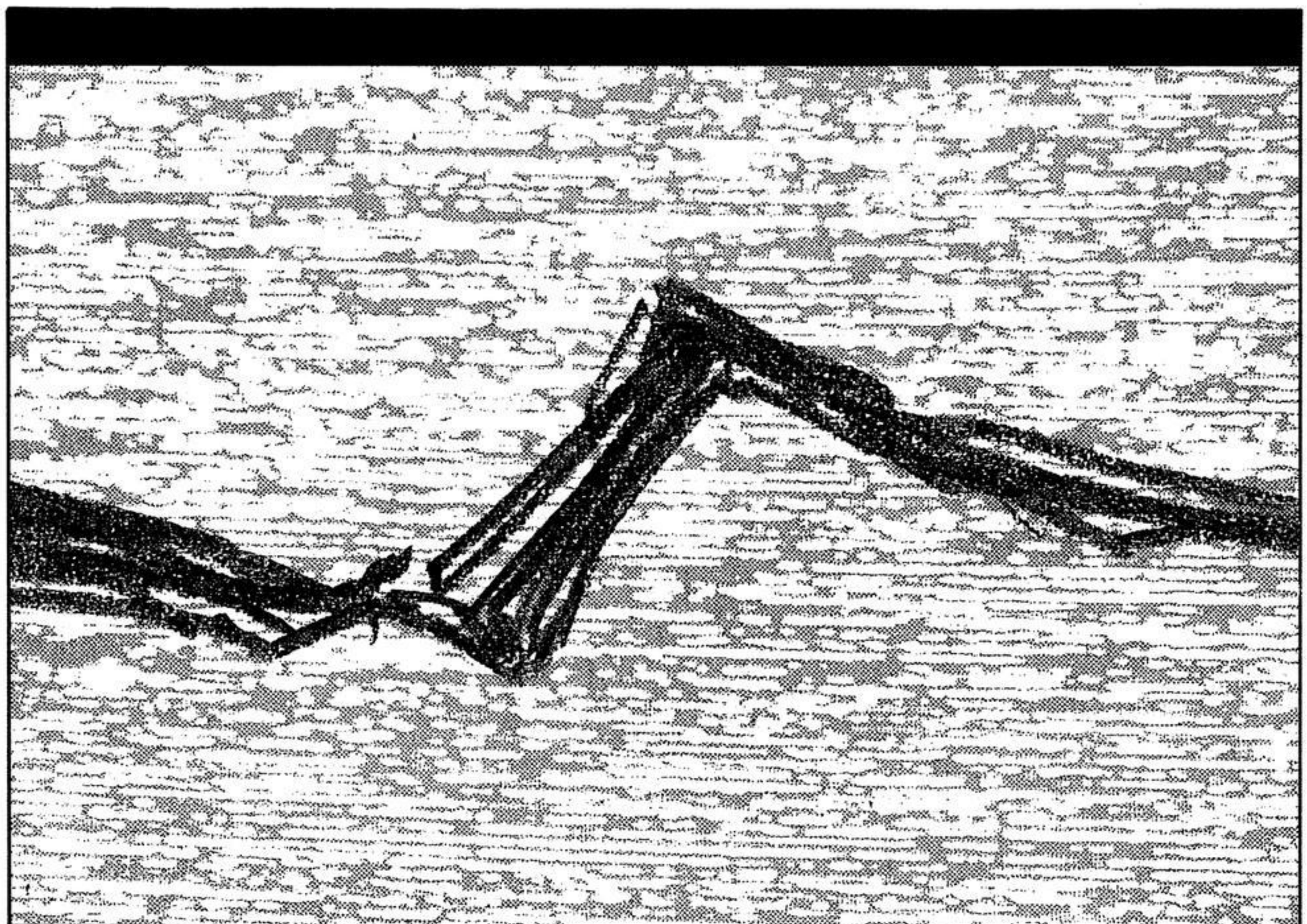
...





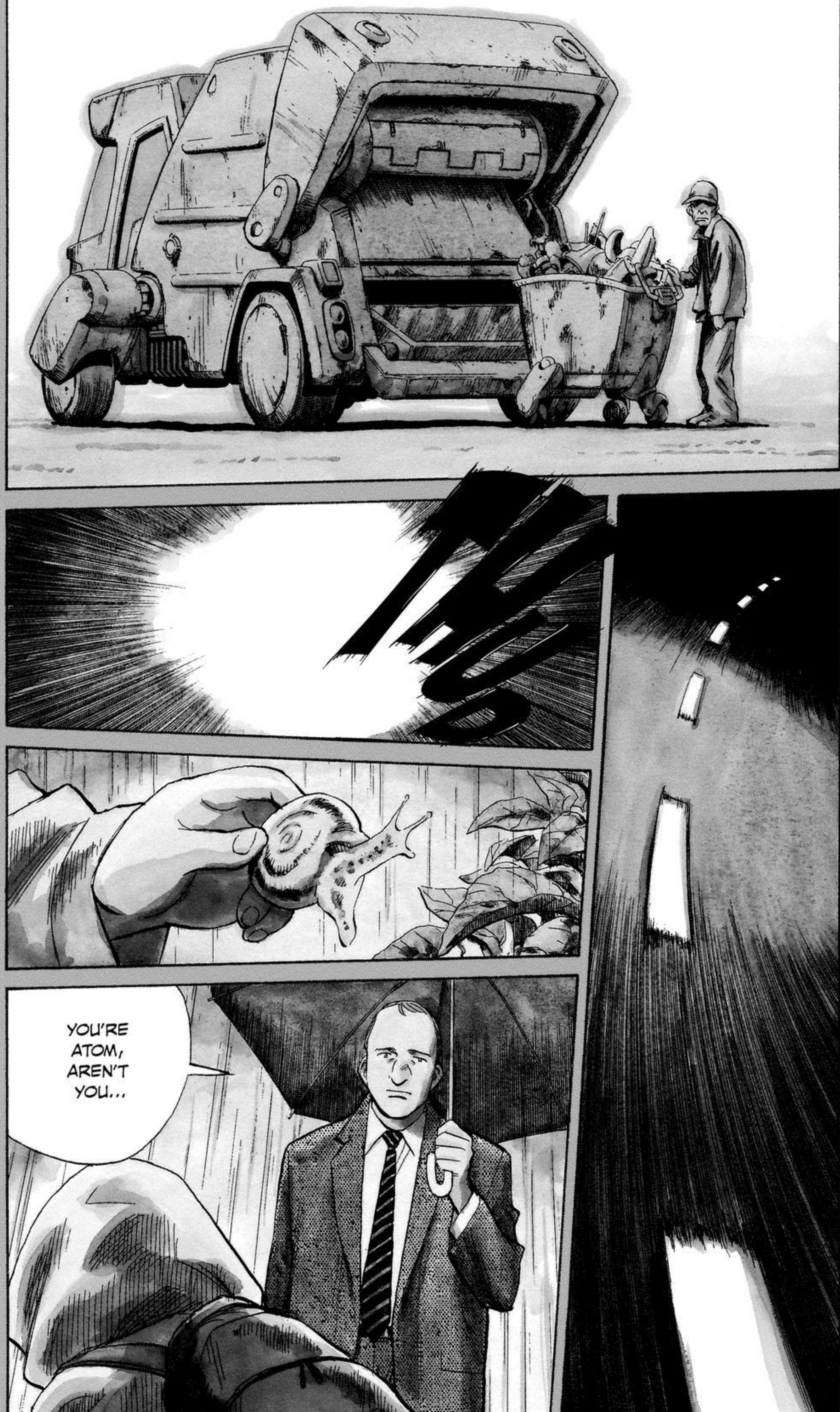
NO, THAT'S NOT IT...

IT'S SOME SORT OF OVERWHELMING... *SUFFERING...*

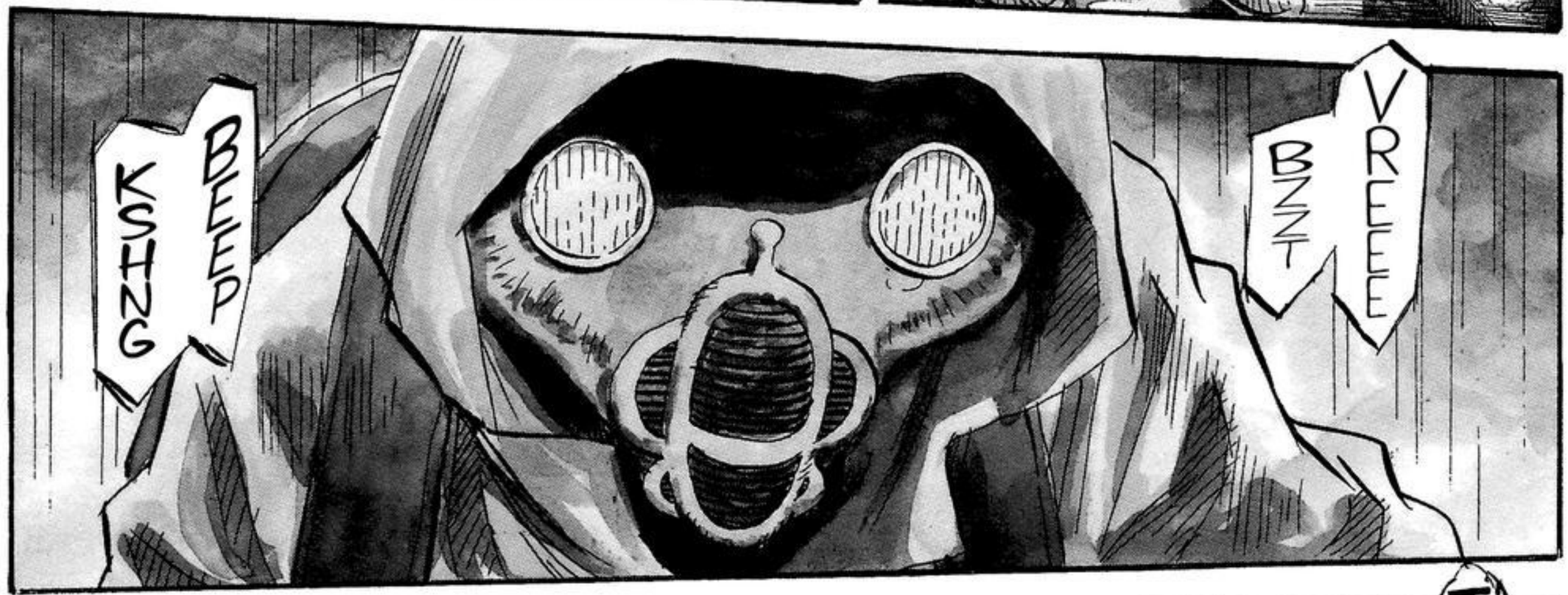


Act 13

FALSE MEMORY

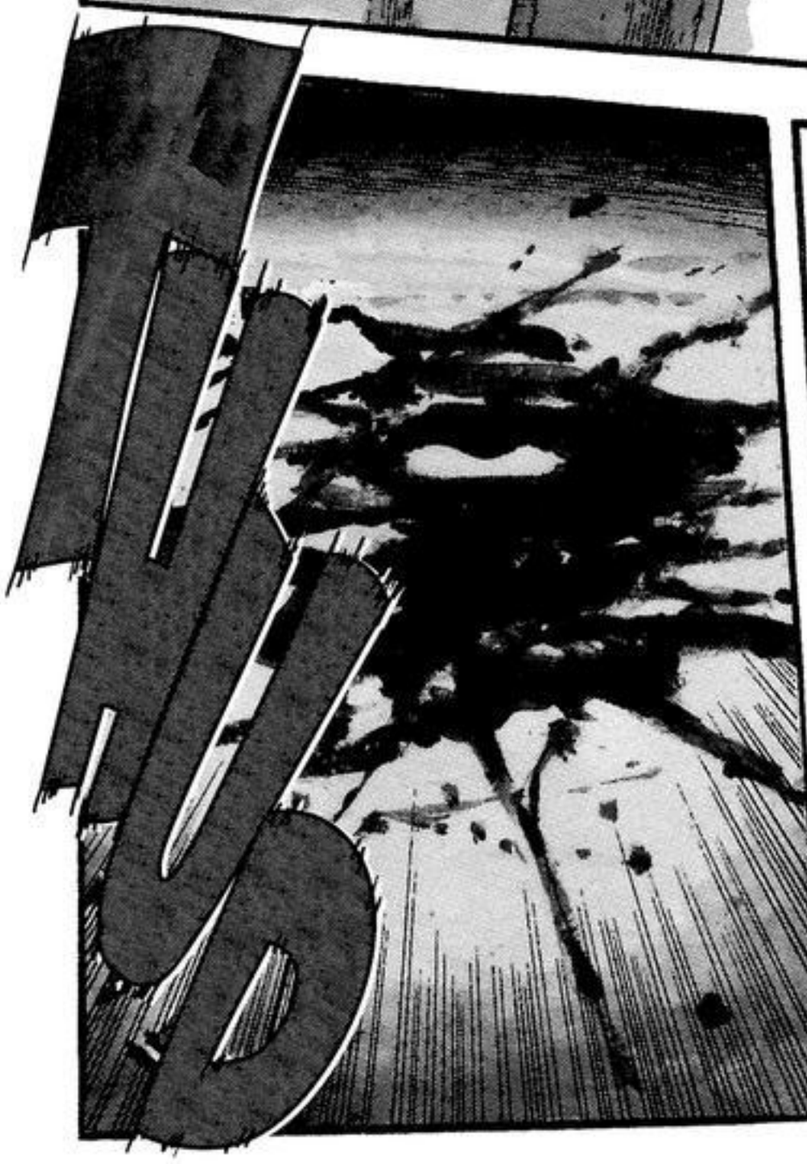


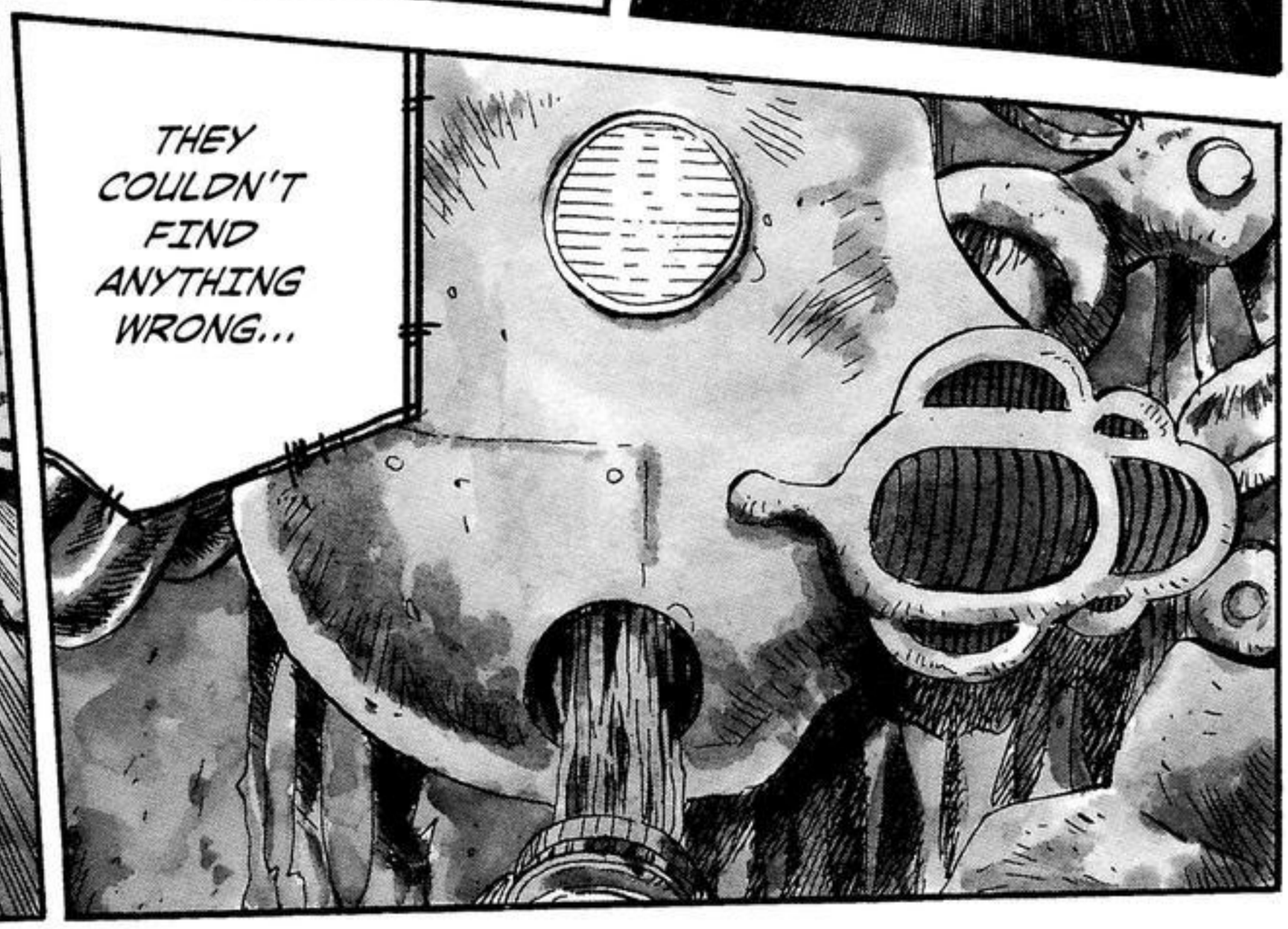
!!


VREEE
BZZT
BEEP
KSHNG

THUMP
HOW ABOUT US EXCHANGING MEMORY CHIPS, EH?
BRZZT
BZZP
ZZAP
DRID
DRID
DRID

HUD


HUD


THEY COULDN'T FIND ANYTHING WRONG...

500 ZEUS A BODY...

Act 13
FALSE MEMORY

LIVE

IT'S ASSUMED TO BE THE REMAINS OF BRANDO AND HIS MYSTERIOUS ATTACKER...

WELL, FOLKS... THE OCEAN FLOOR AT THE SCENE IS LITTERED WITH WRECKAGE...

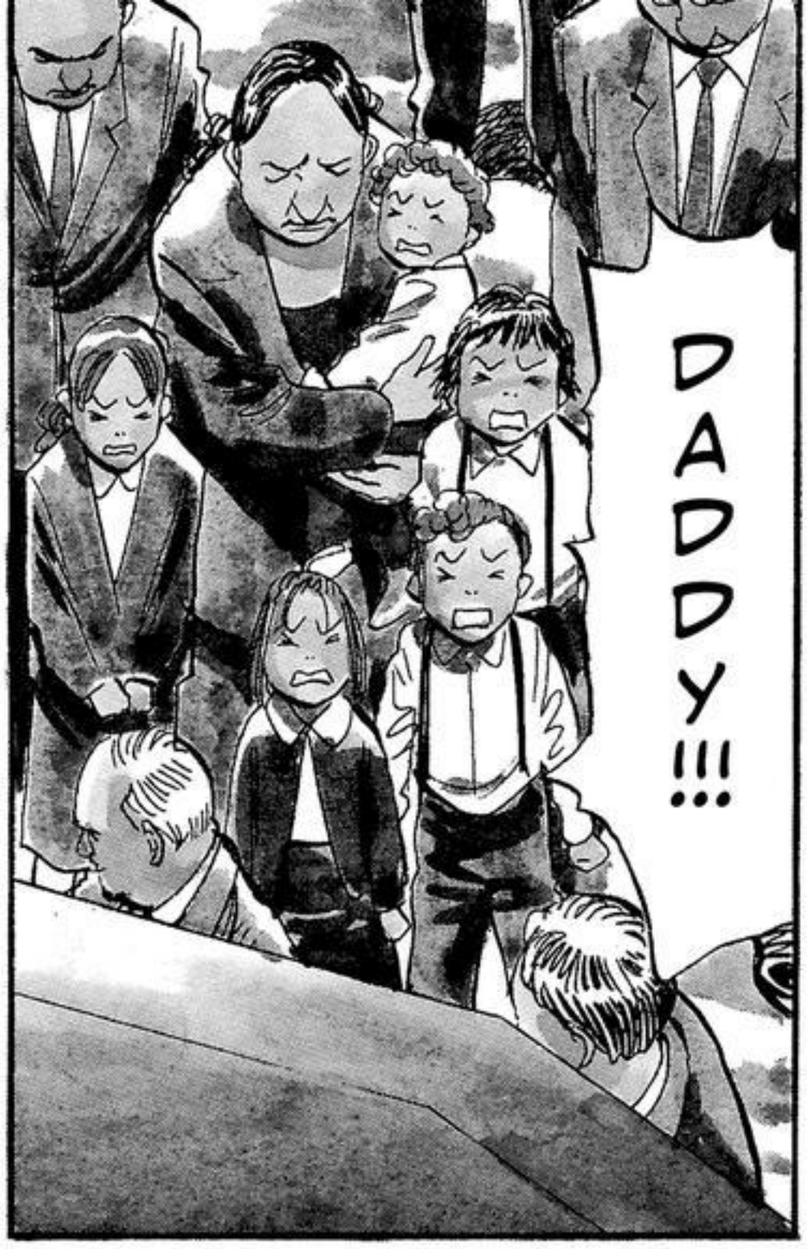
LET'S GO NOW TO OUR REPORTER IN ISTANBUL.

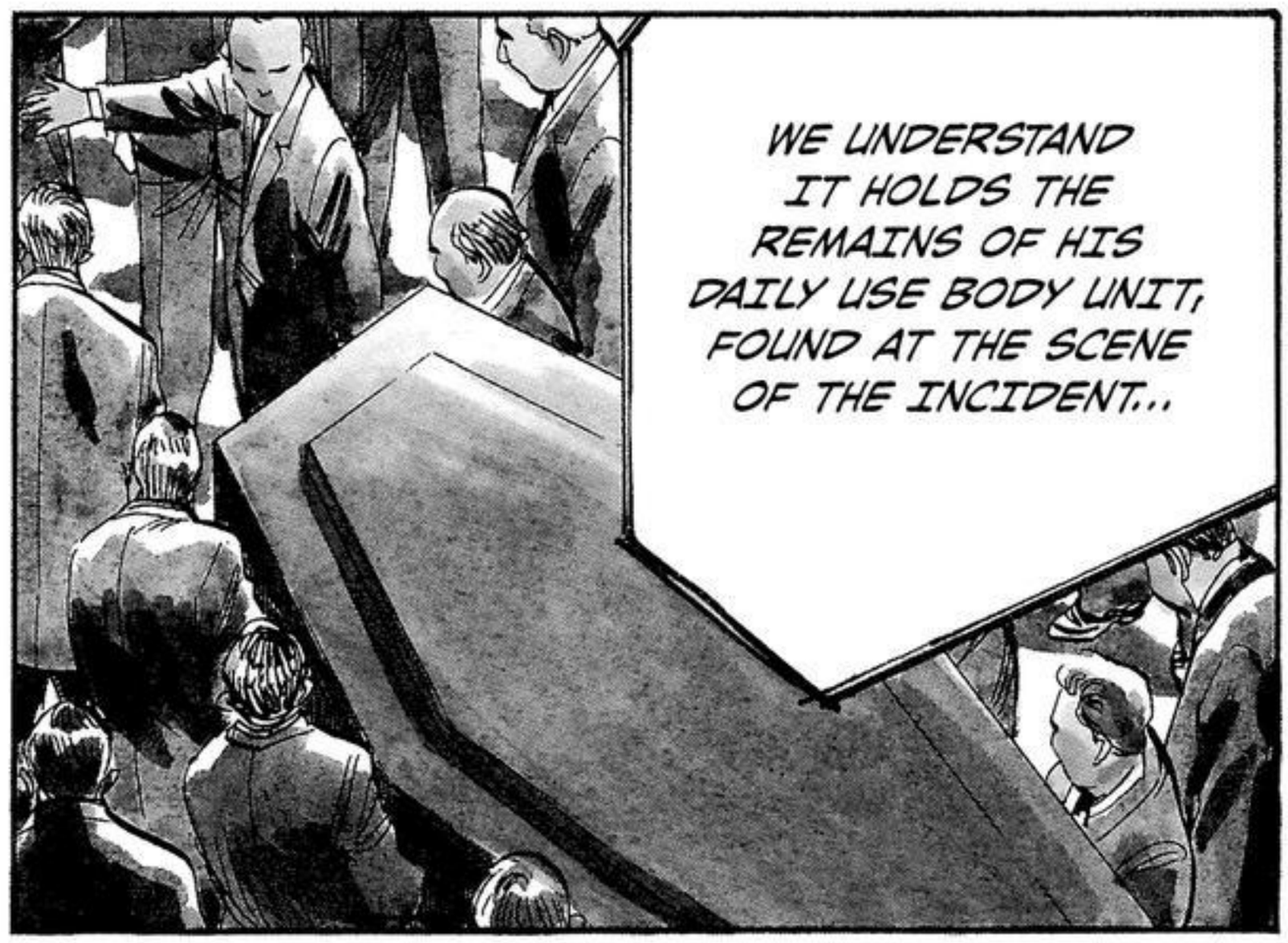
SOURCES ON THE SCENE SAY THAT THE MUDDY SEA BOTTOM WILL MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE TO SALVAGE ALL THE WRECKAGE...

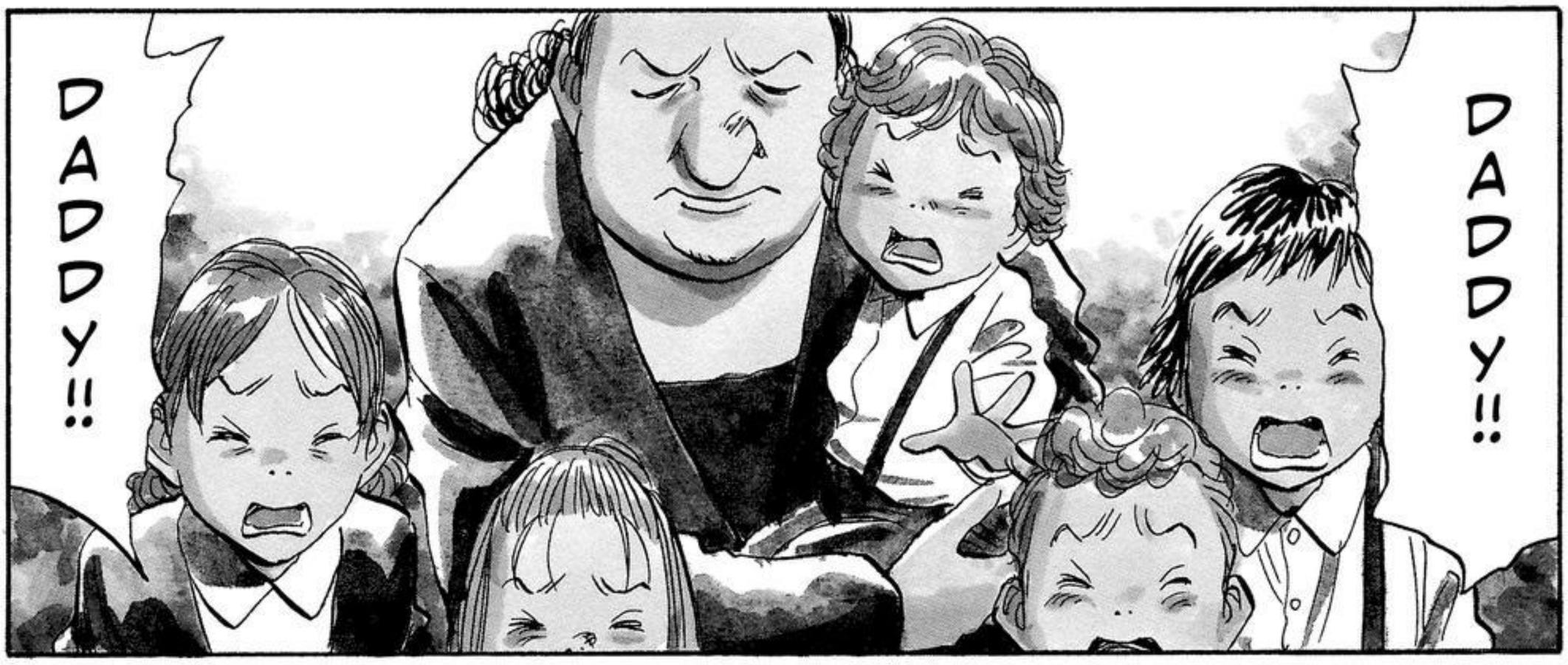
HIS COFFIN IS BEING SILENTLY CARRIED IN...

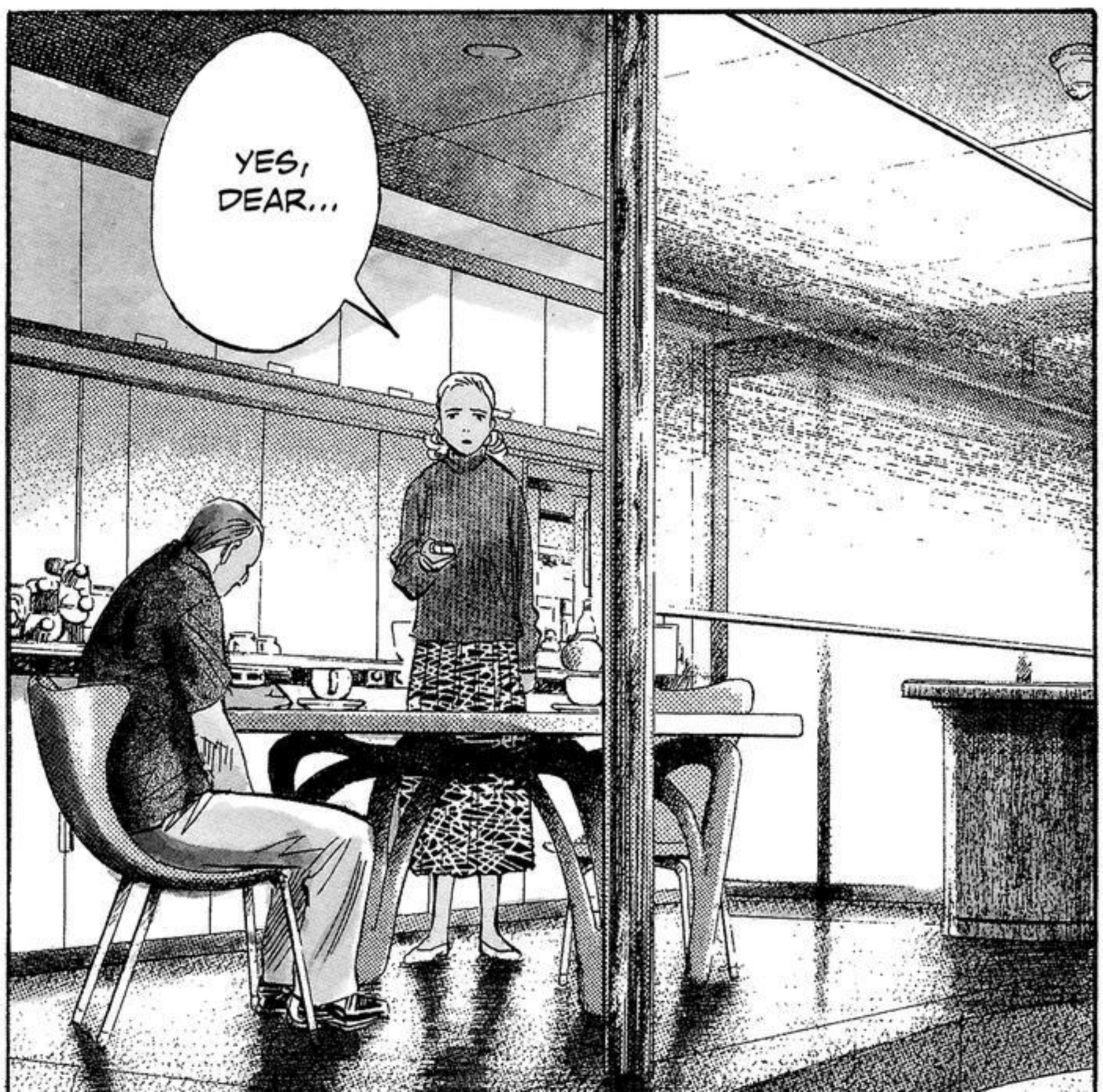
THOUSANDS HAVE TURNED OUT TO MOURN THEIR HERO, BRANDO.

HERE AT THE BLUE MOSQUE COLISEUM IN ISTANBUL...

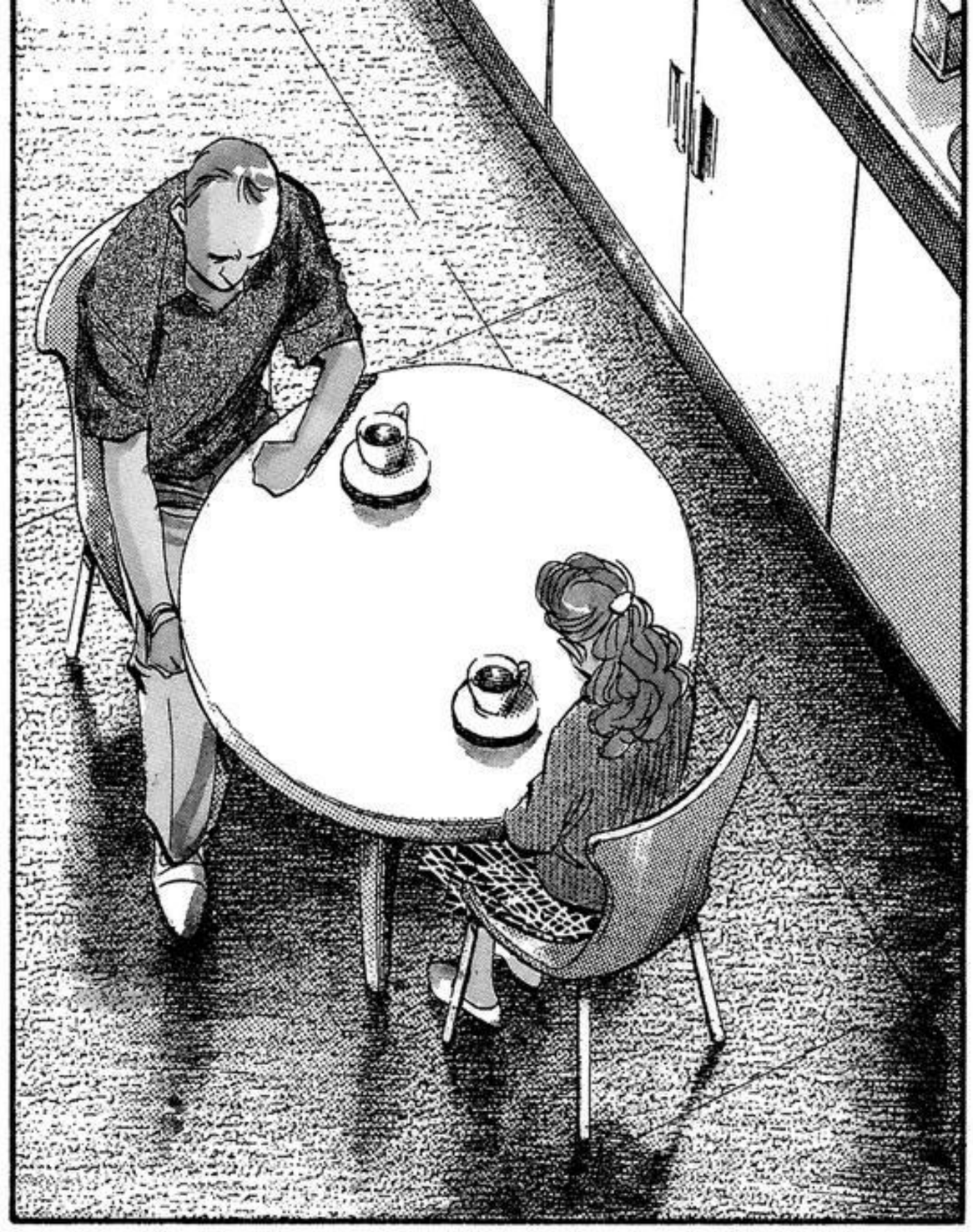

DADDY!!!


WE UNDERSTAND IT HOLDS THE REMAINS OF HIS DAILY USE BODY UNIT, FOUND AT THE SCENE OF THE INCIDENT...


DADDY!!
DADDY!!


YES, DEAR...

TURN IT OFF, WILL YOU?

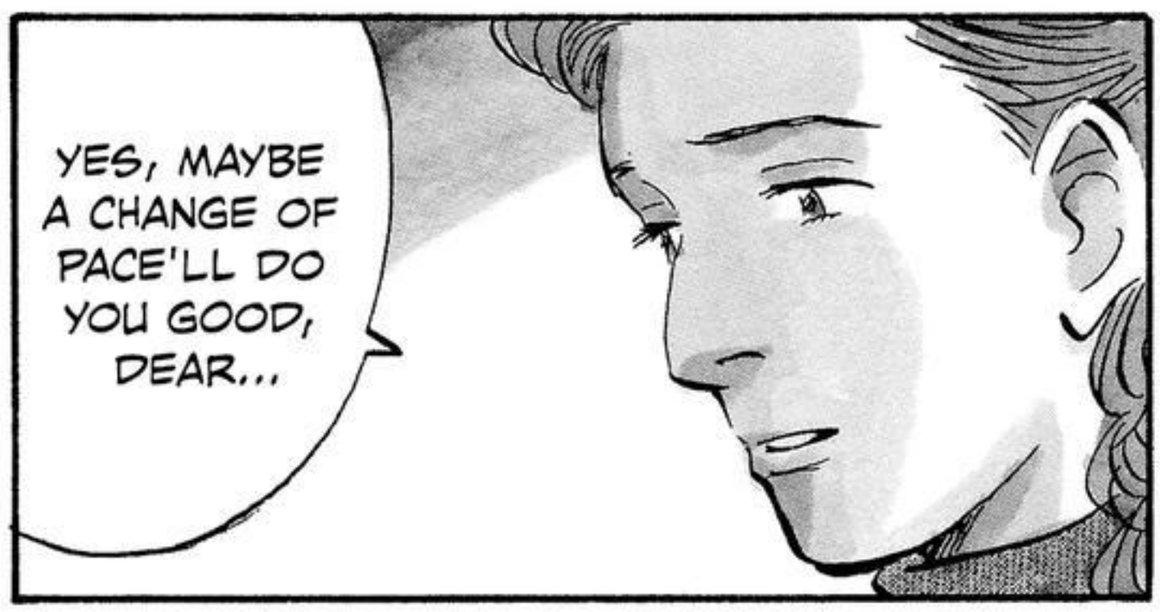


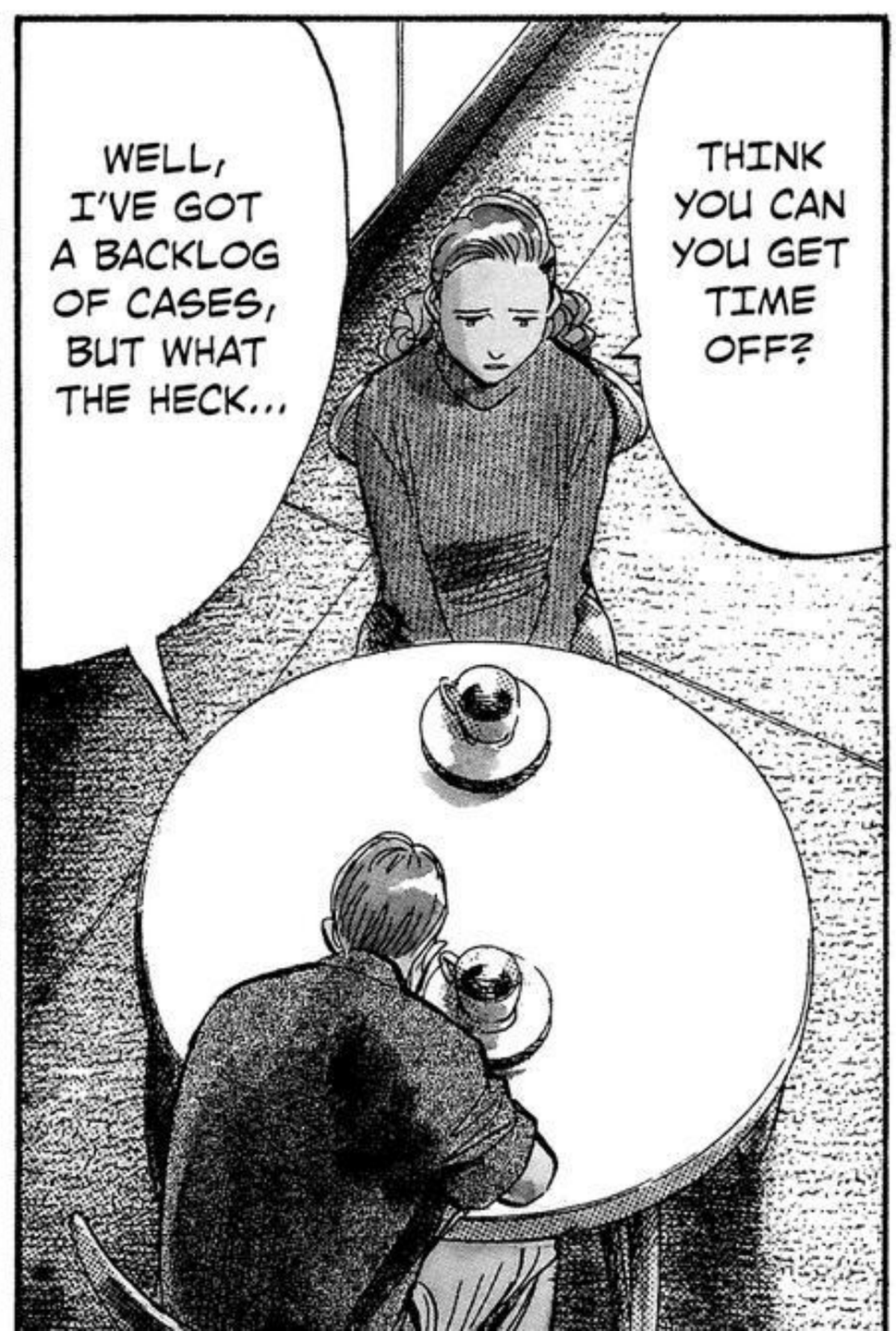
THERE'S NOTHING YOU COULD HAVE DONE...
DON'T BE SO HARD ON YOURSELF ...

LET'S TAKE THAT TRIP...

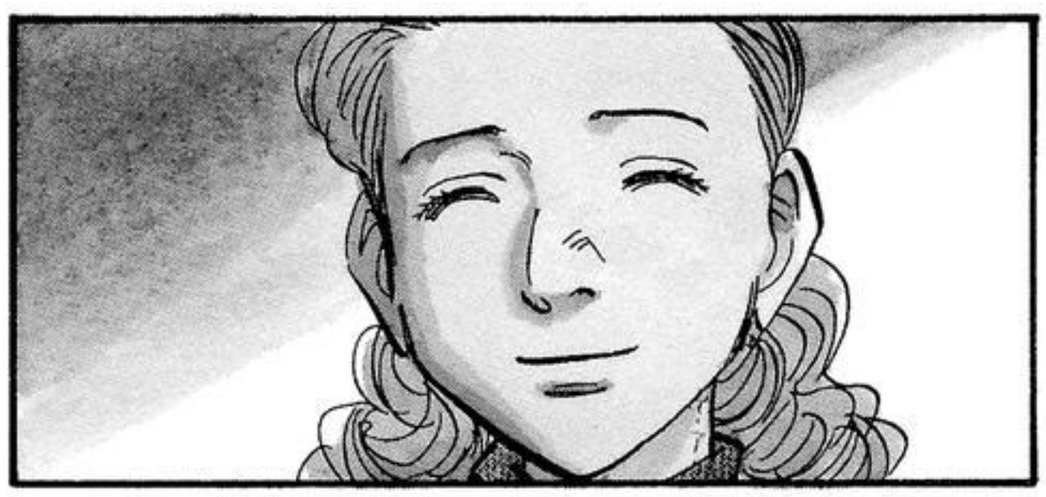
YES?
HELENA ...

IT SEEMS LIKE THIS IS THE END TO THE ATTACKS ON ROBOTS...

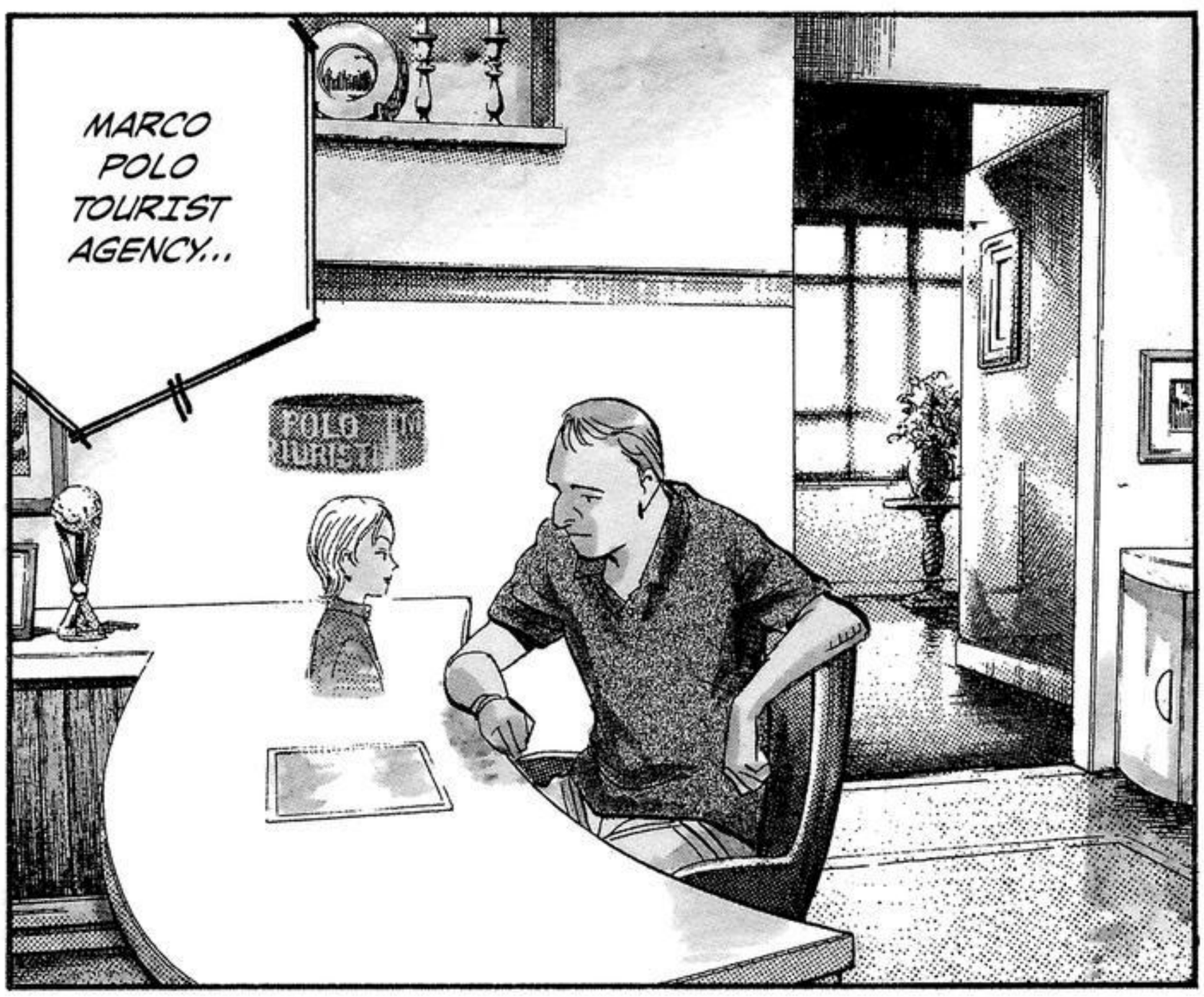

YES, MAYBE A CHANGE OF PACE'LL DO YOU GOOD, DEAR...

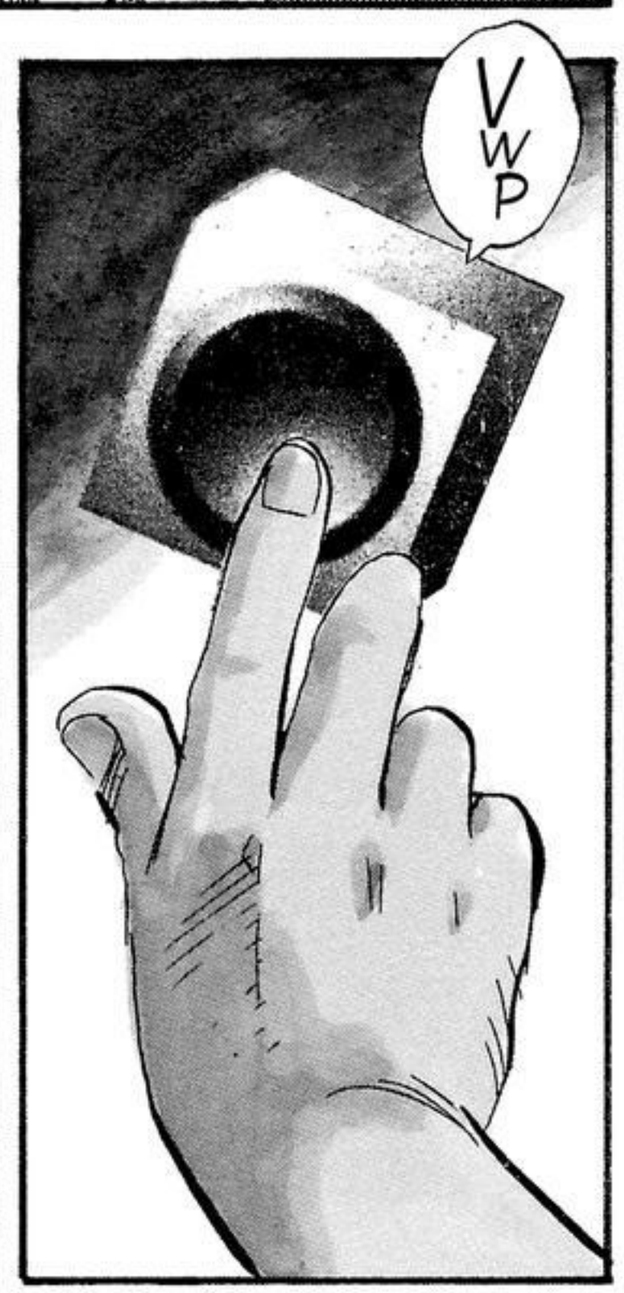

WELL, I'VE GOT A BACKLOG OF CASES, BUT WHAT THE HECK...
THINK YOU CAN YOU GET TIME OFF?

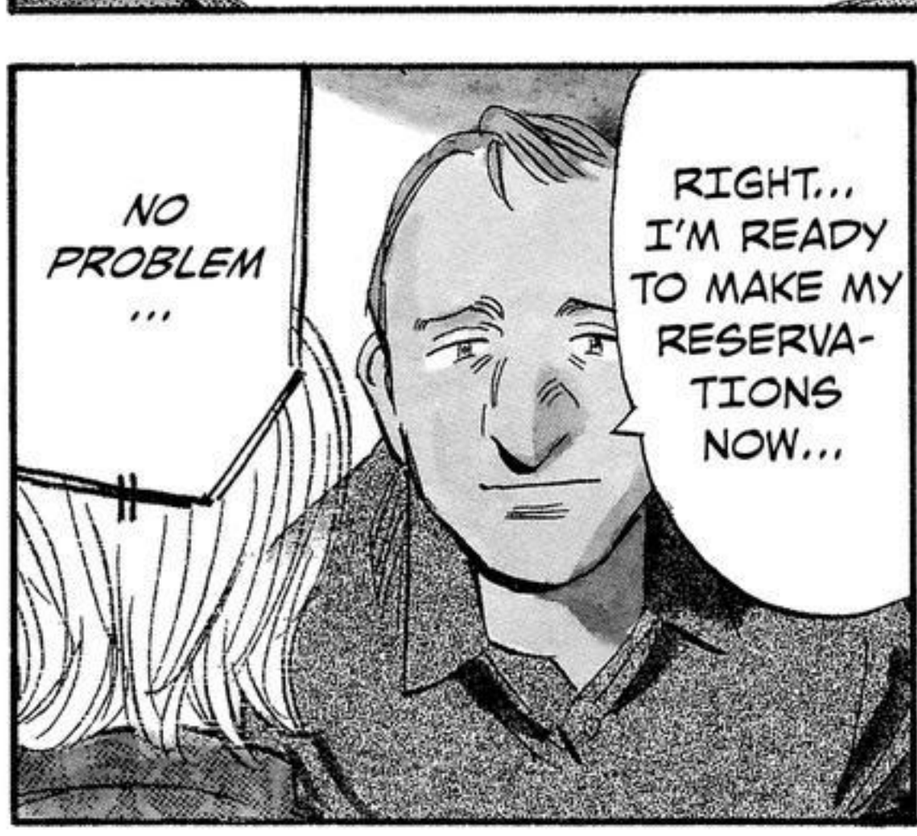
OF COURSE, I WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO BEING THERE WITH YOU, SO I MADE SURE I DIDN'T DO ANY SIGHTSEEING...

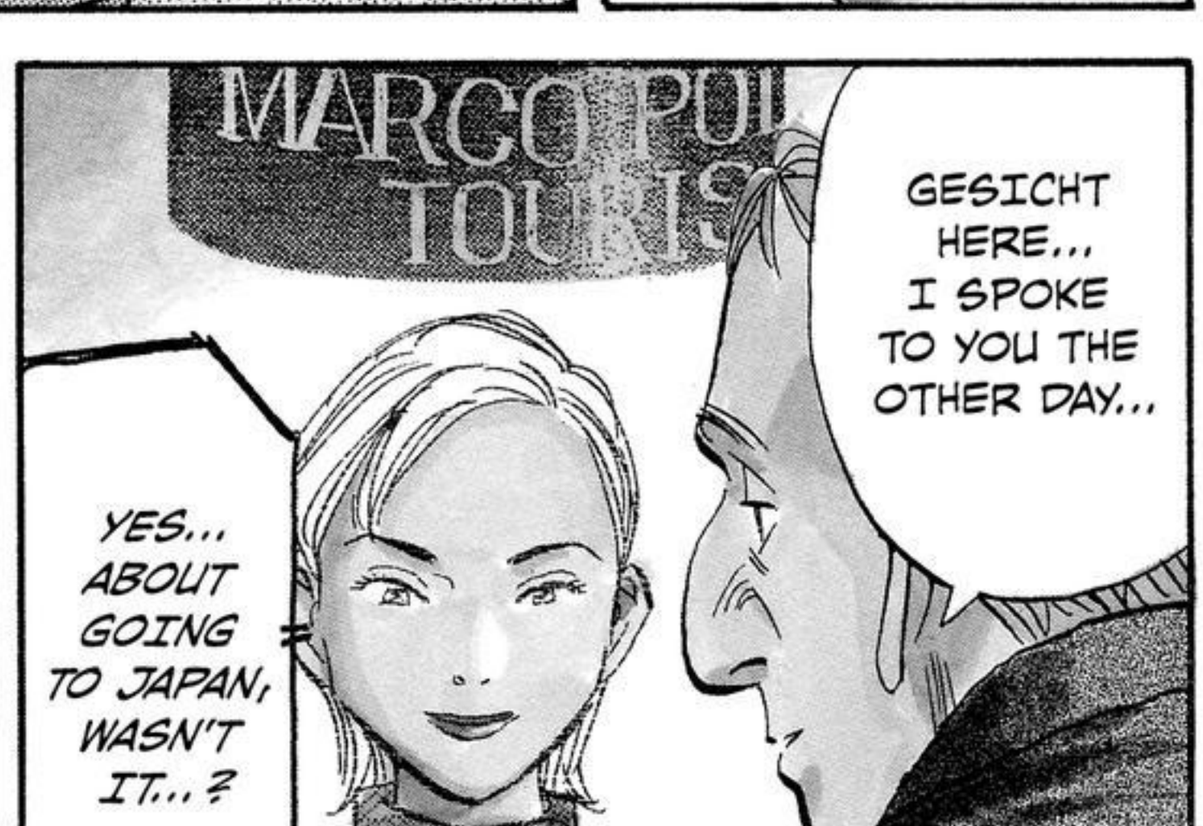


SURE IT WILL...
I WAS JUST IN JAPAN FOR WORK, AND IT SEEMED LIKE A REAL NICE PLACE...

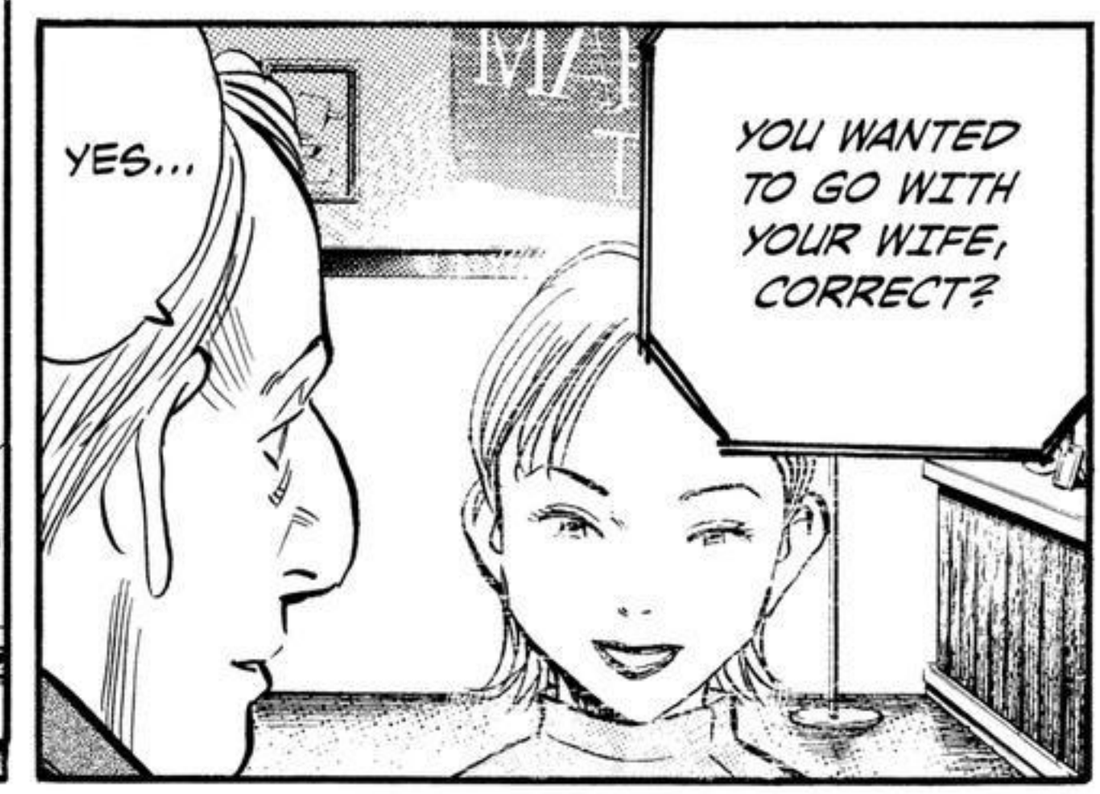

MARCO POLO TOURIST AGENCY...


VWP


NO PROBLEM ...
RIGHT... I'M READY TO MAKE MY RESERVATIONS NOW...

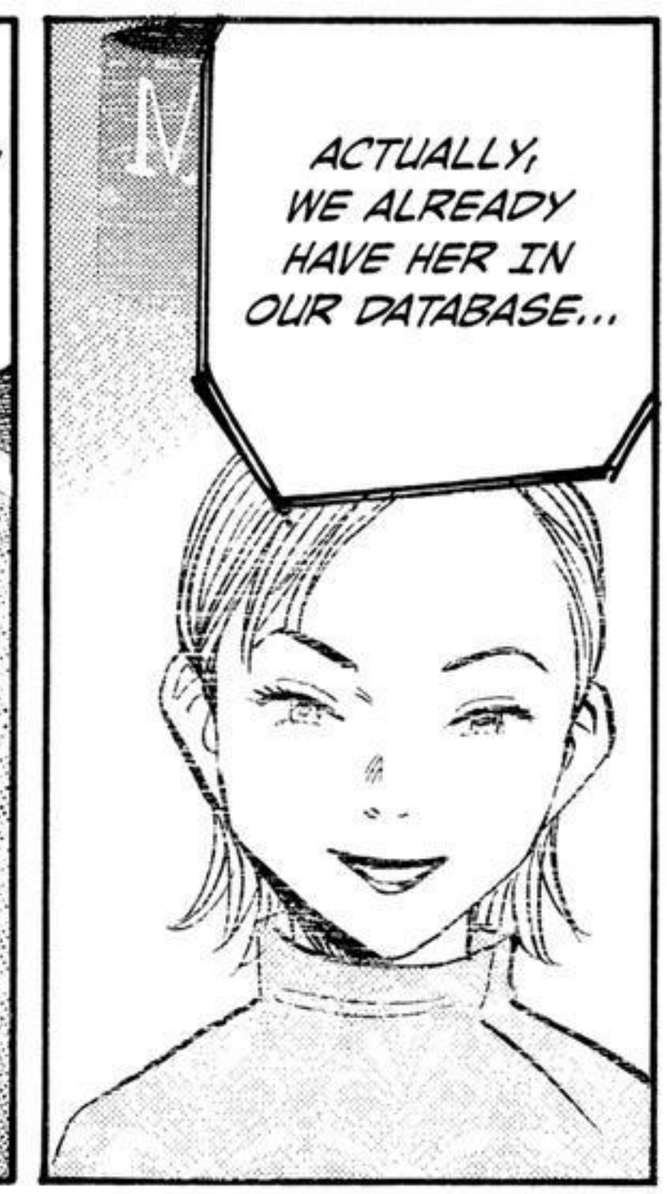

GESICHT HERE... I SPOKE TO YOU THE OTHER DAY...
YES... ABOUT GOING TO JAPAN, WASN'T IT...?

I JUST REMEMBERED MY WIFE'S NOT REGISTERD WITH YOU YET... I'LL GET HER--
HANG ON A SEC...


YES...
YOU WANTED TO GO WITH YOUR WIFE, CORRECT?

THAT'S ODD... SHE'S NEVER BEEN OUTSIDE THE EURO FEDERATION...

REALLY ...?


ACTUALLY, WE ALREADY HAVE HER IN OUR DATABASE...

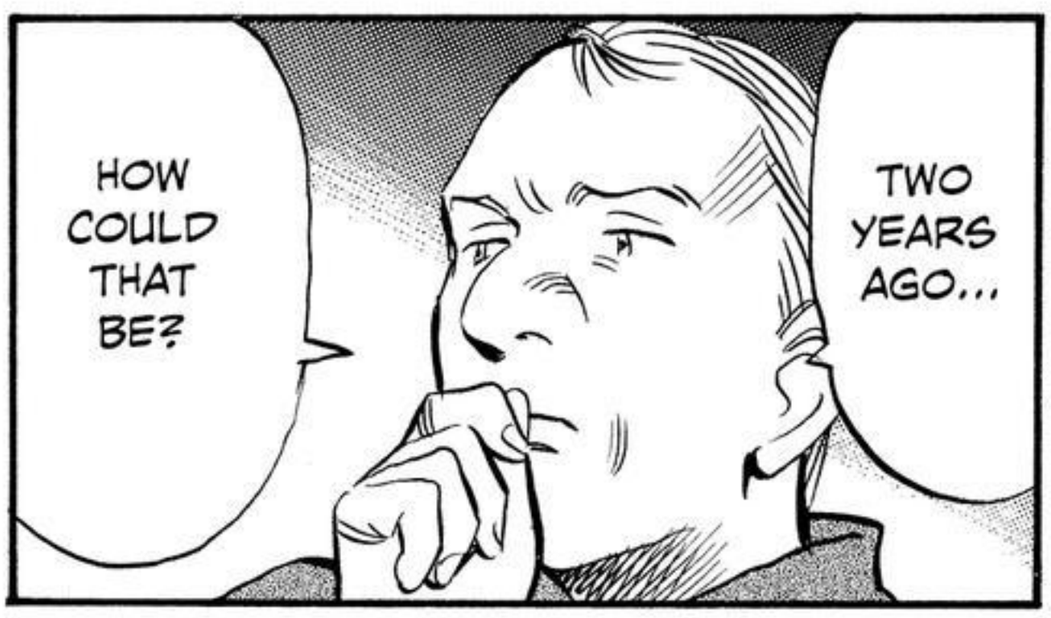
CANCELLED OUR RESER-VATION ...?

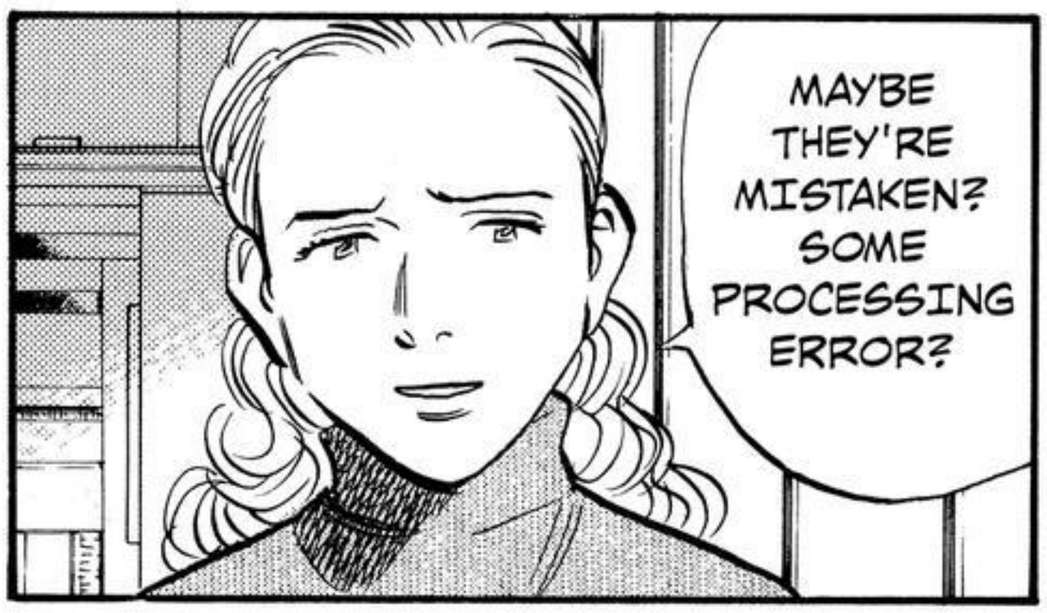
WHEN?
WE DID?

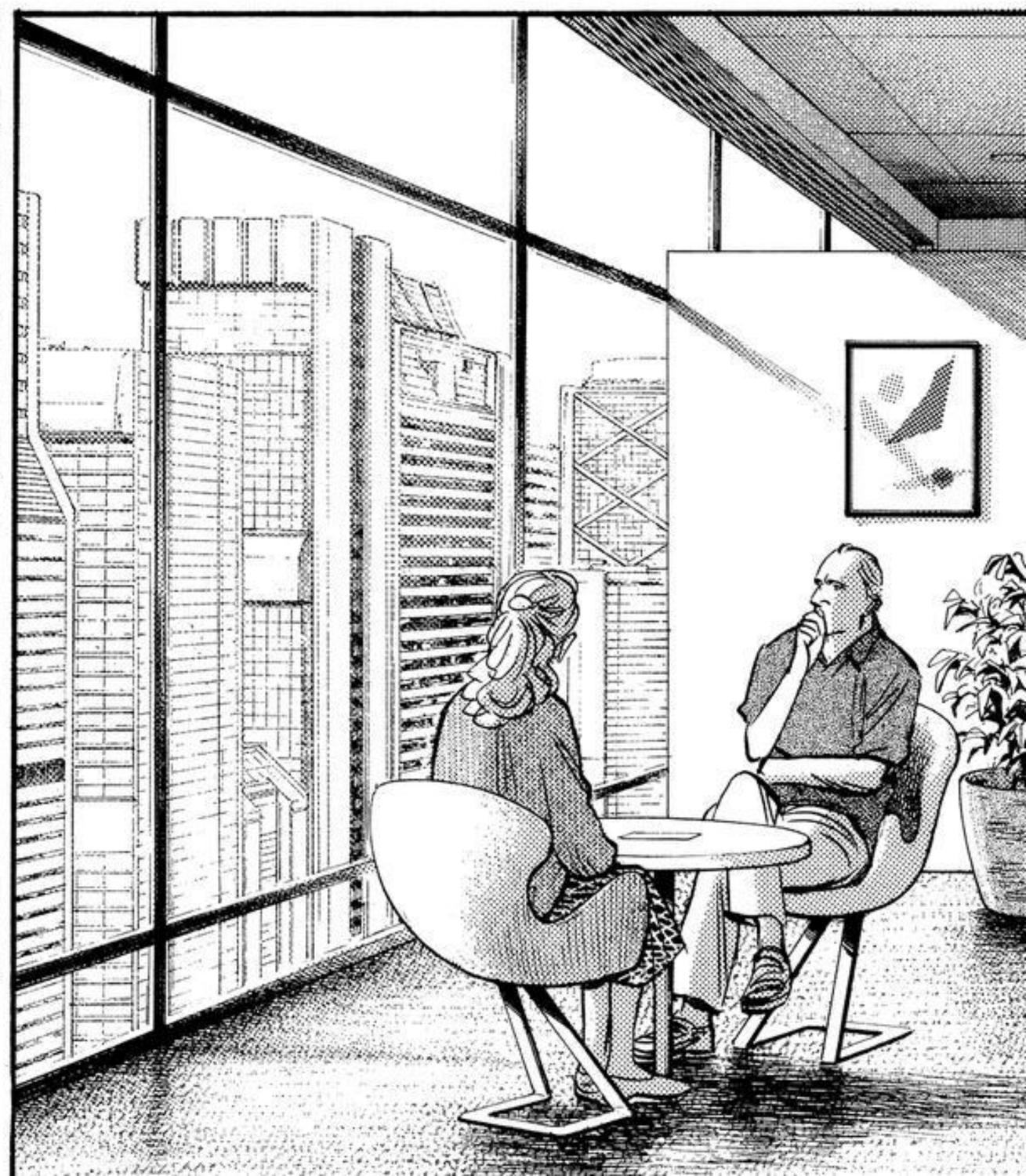
WELL, BOTH OF YOU REGISTERED PREVIOUSLY, BUT OUR RECORDS SHOW THAT YOU CANCELLED YOUR RESERVATION RIGHT AFTER THAT...

YOU HAD PLANNED THE SAME TRIP... TO JAPAN...

TWO YEARS AGO...

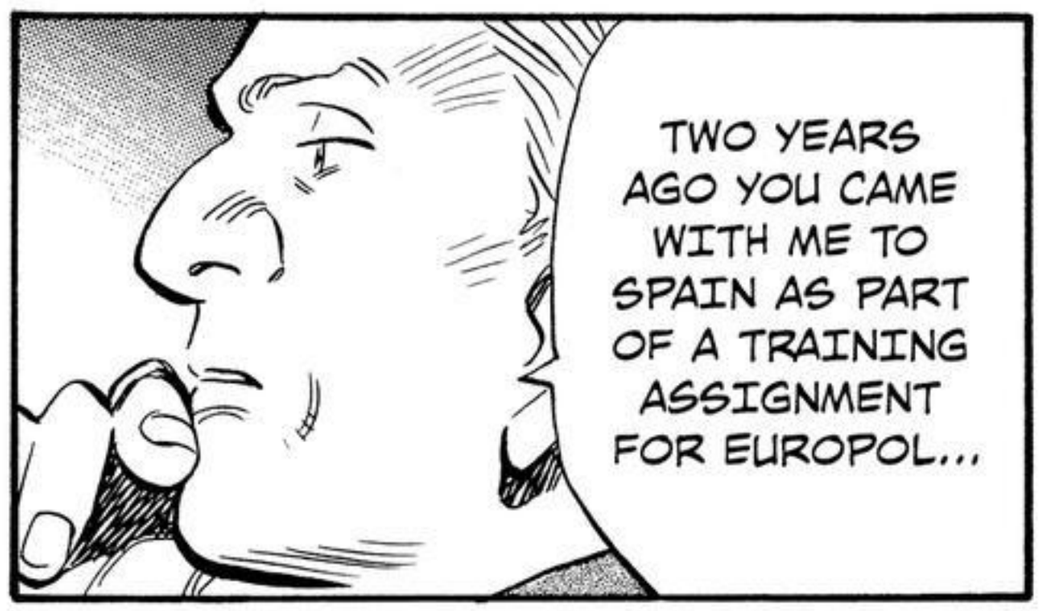


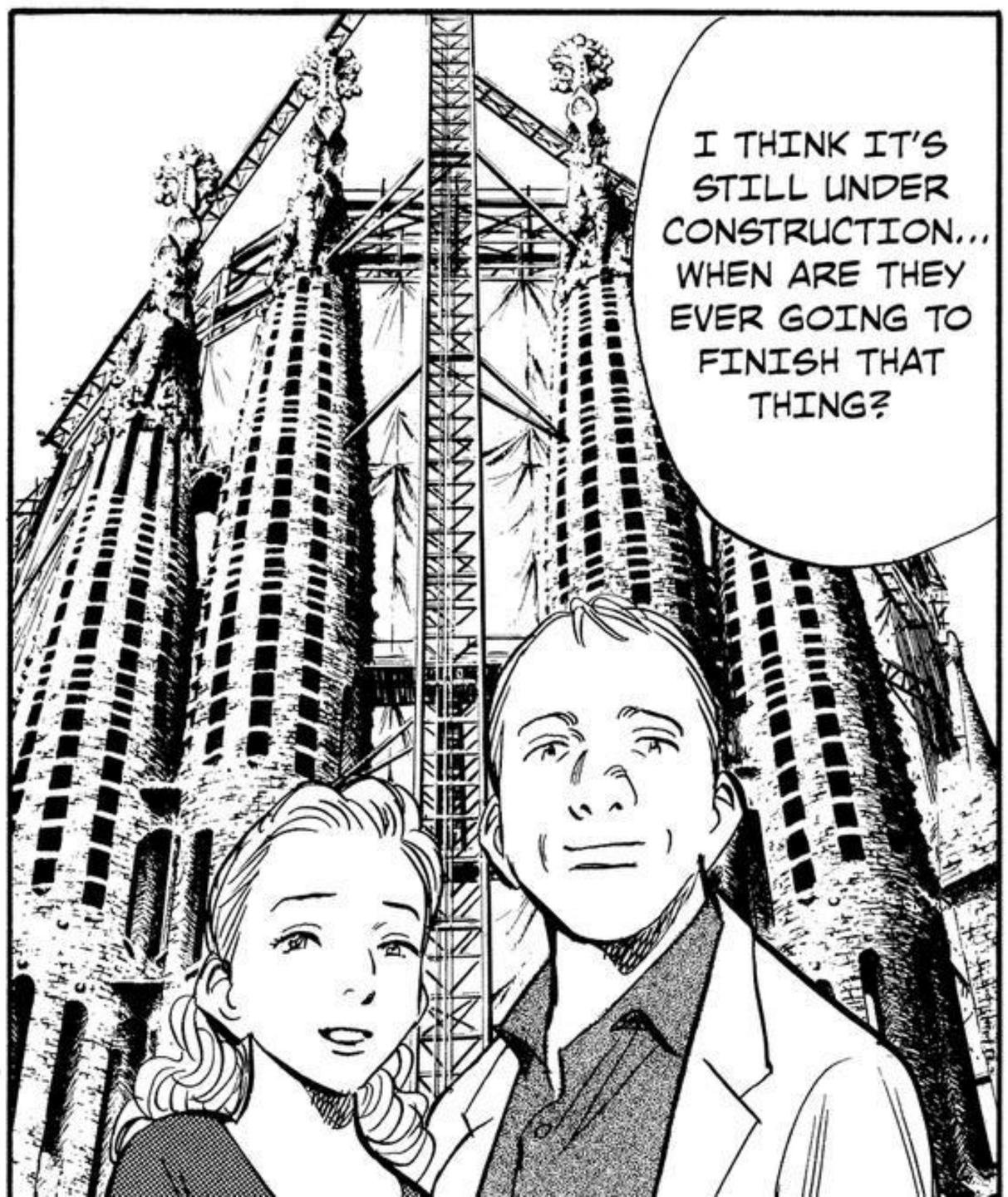


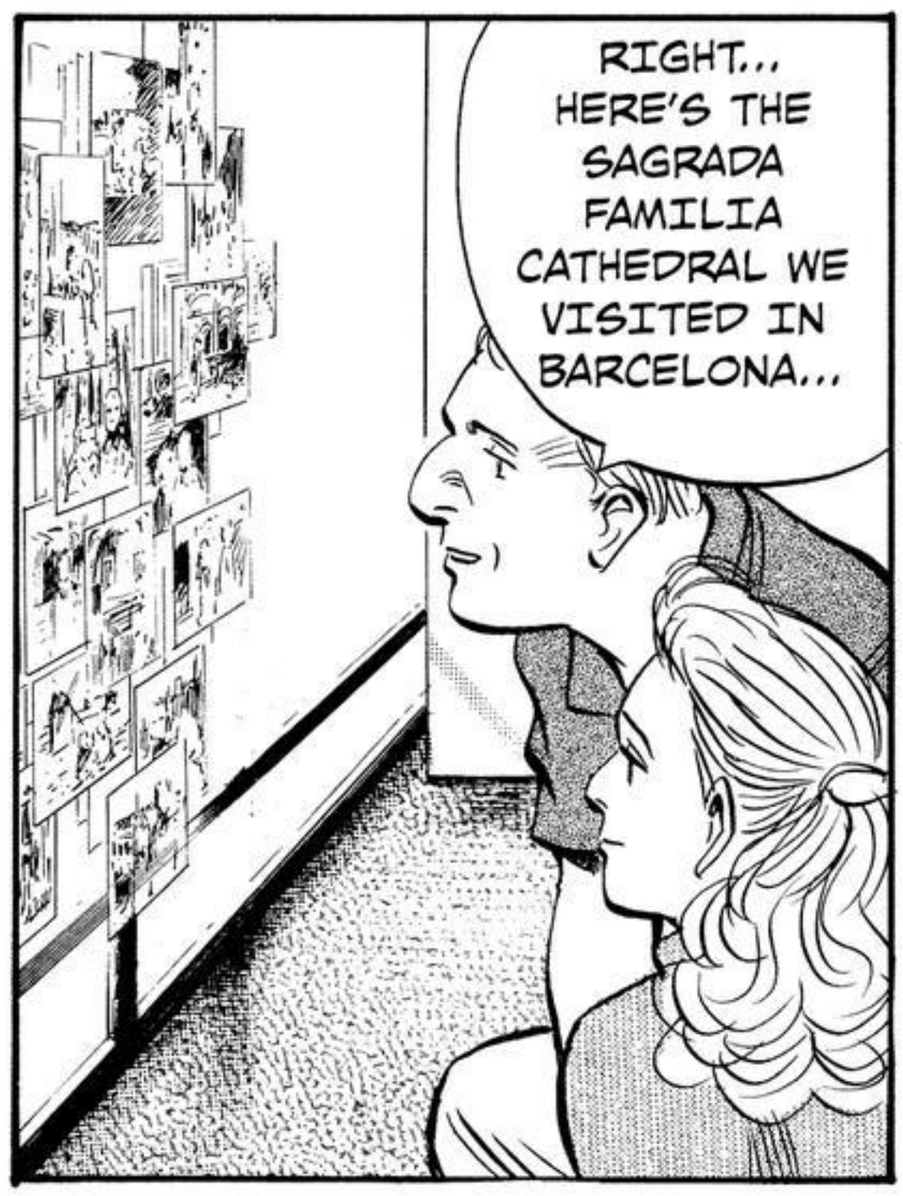


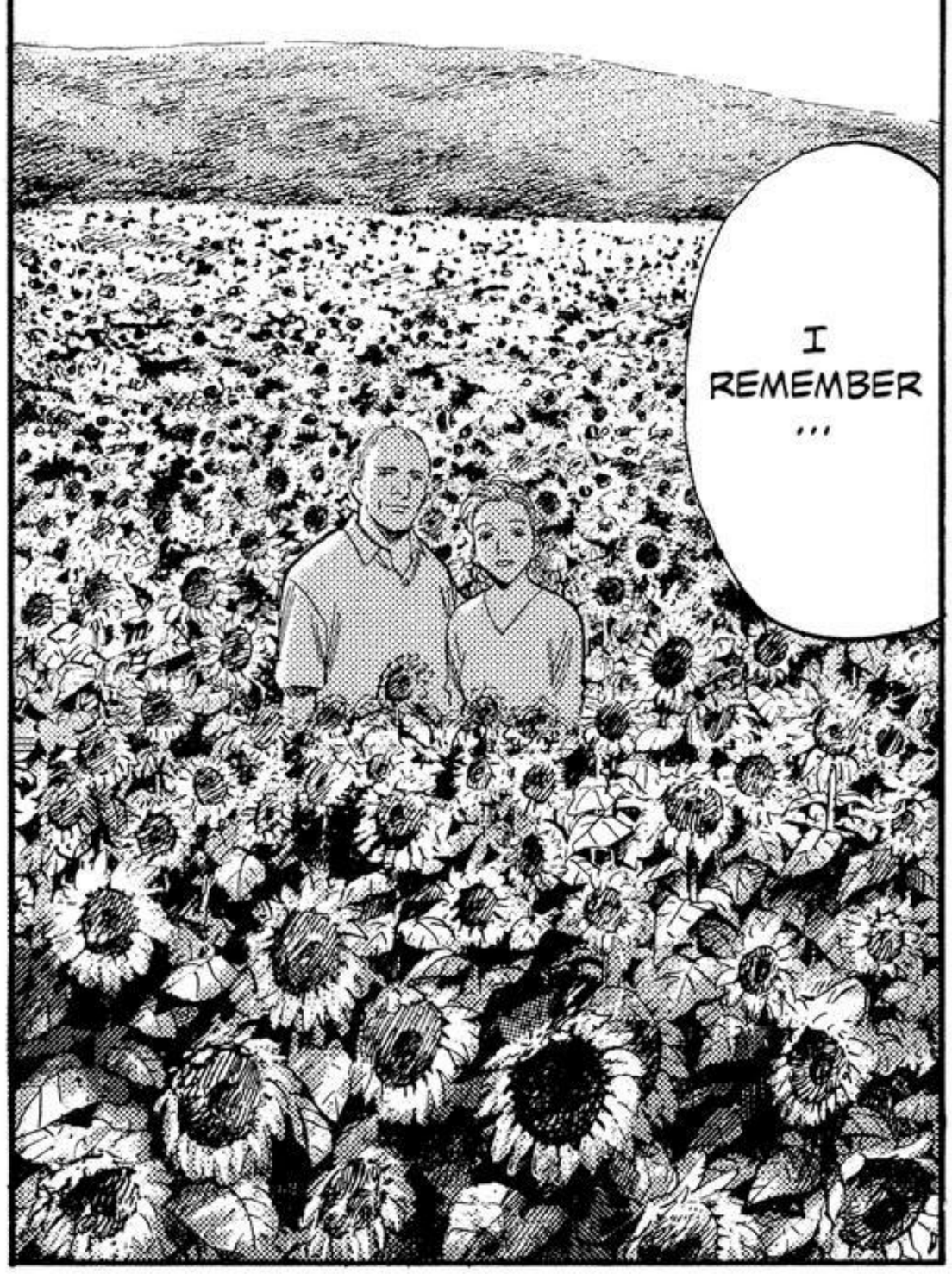
ZZWP

WE STILL HAVE ALL THE PHOTOS...








I REMEMBER ...

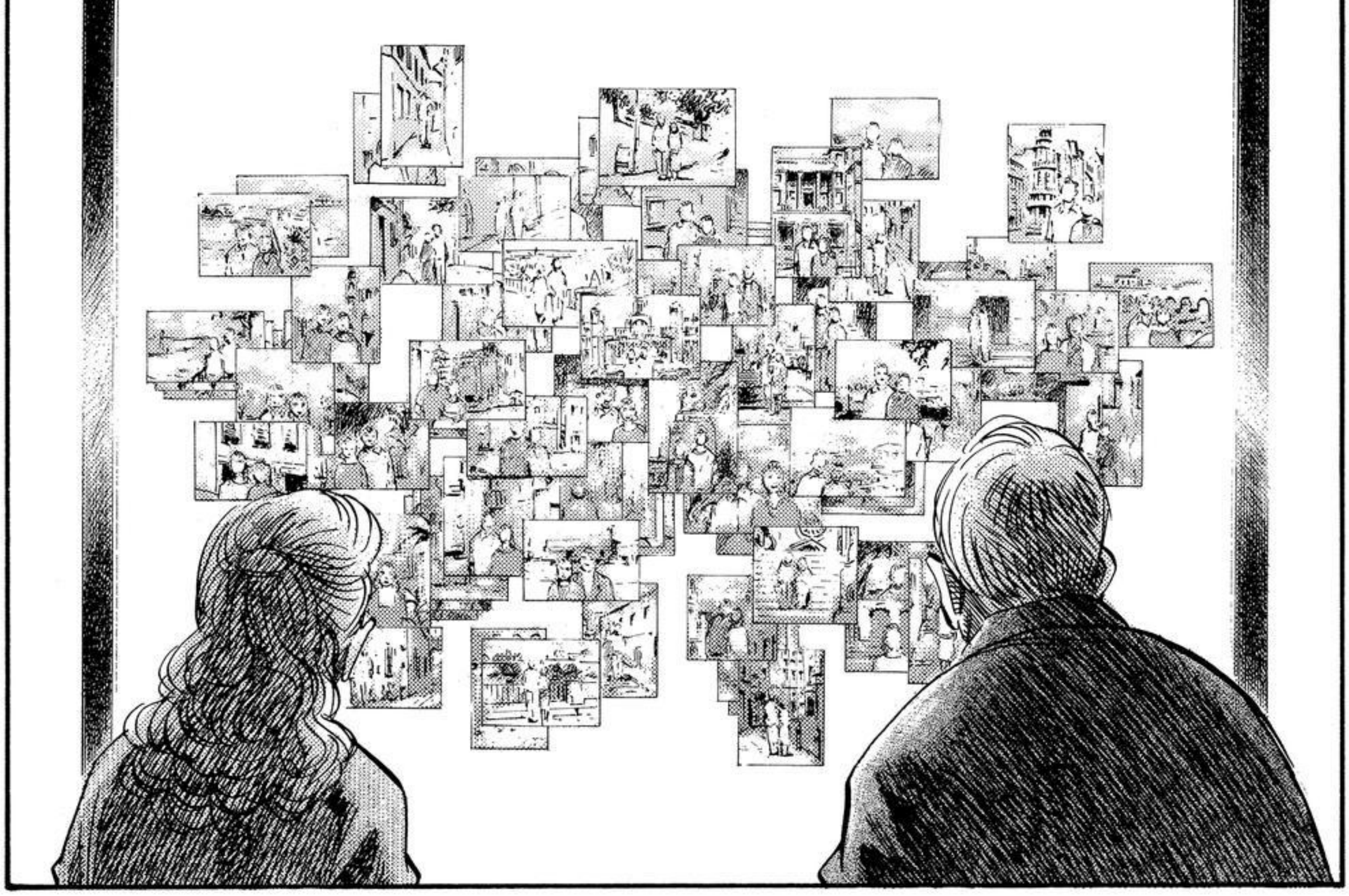
AND THESE ARE FROM ANDALUSIA, RIGHT?

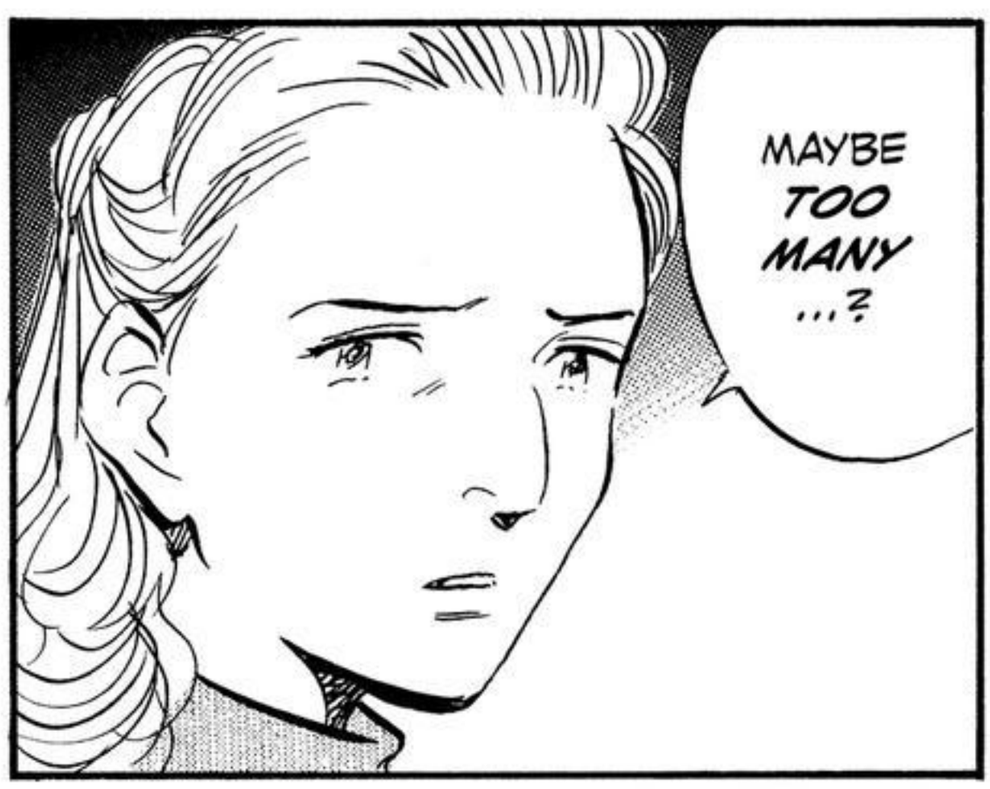
RIGHT... FIELDS OF SUNFLOWERS, AS FAR AS THE EYE CAN SEE...

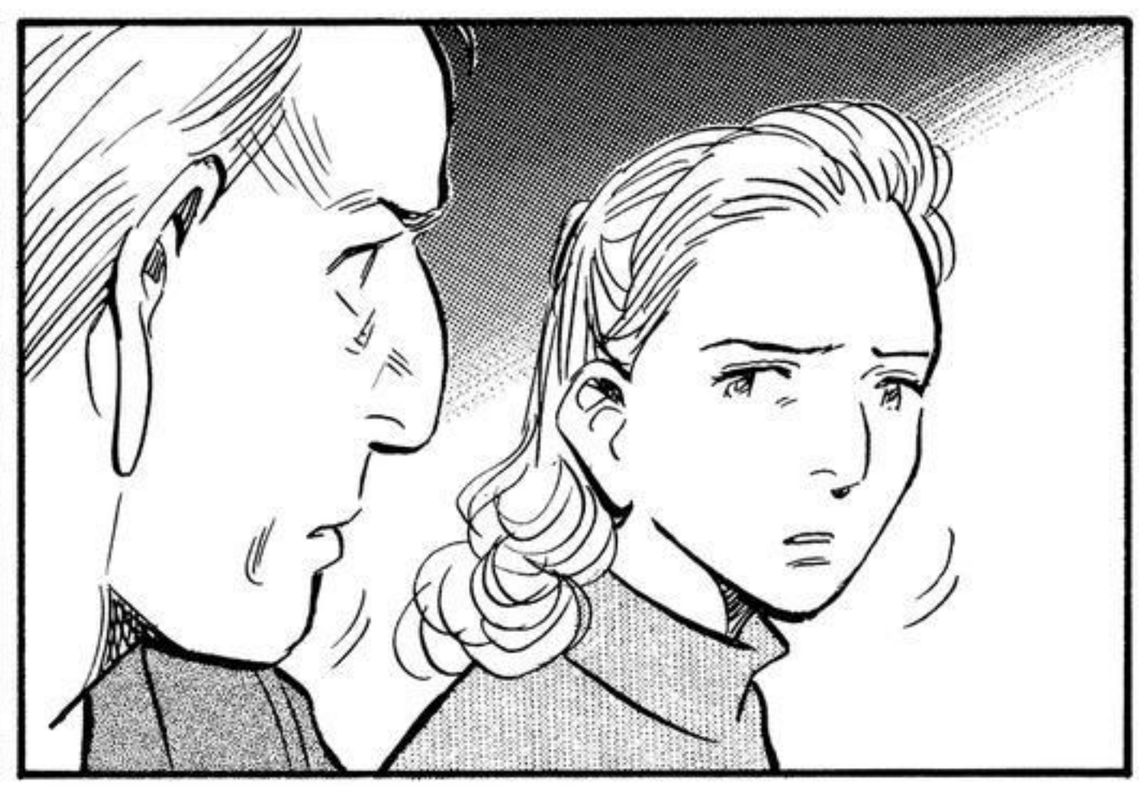
THAT'S RIGHT! YOU WERE SO WORRIED, YOU USED YOUR GPS TO FIND ME...
YOU TRIPPED AND FELL, AND I COULDN'T FIND YOU AMONG ALL THOSE FLOWERS...

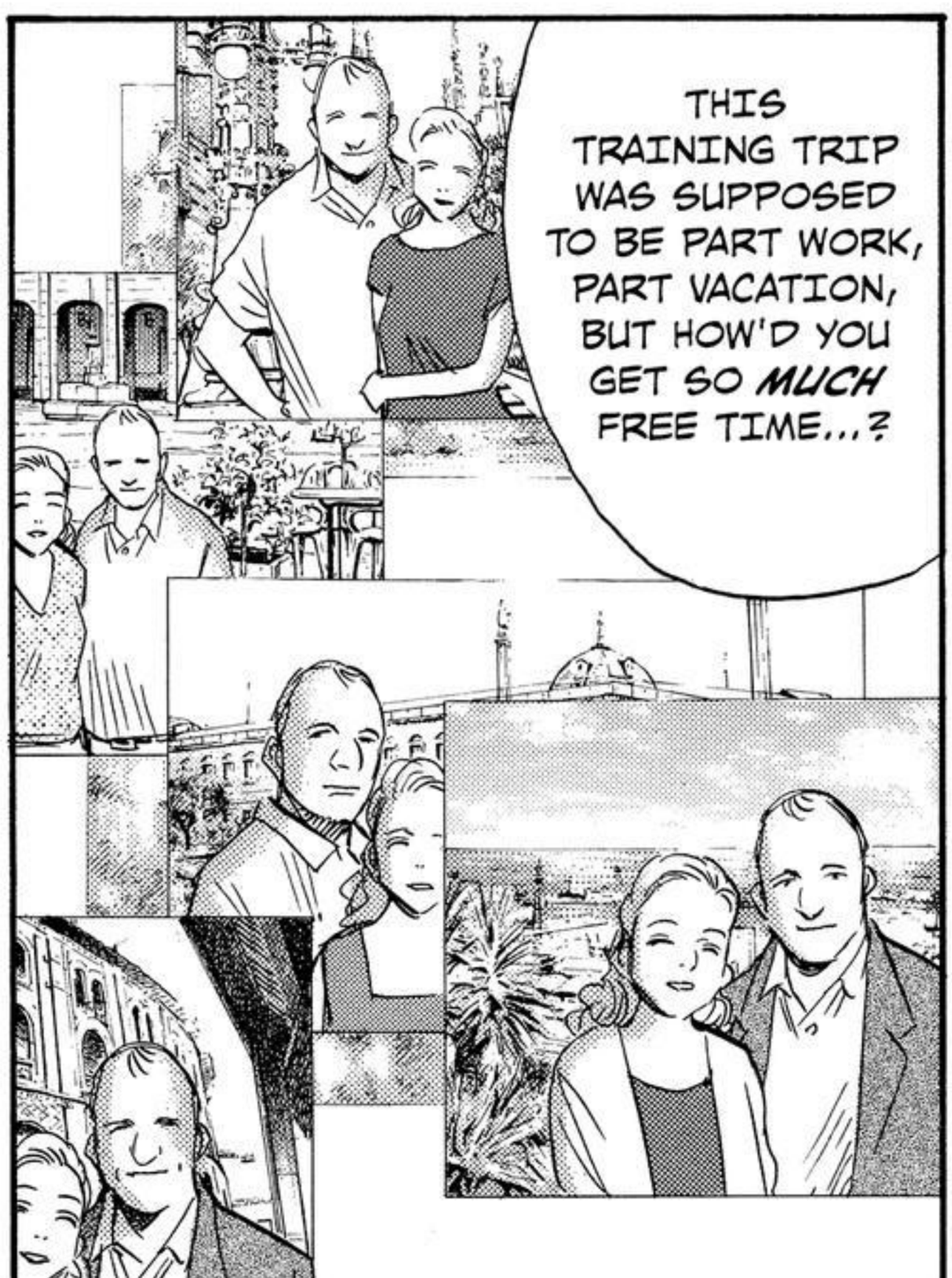
HA HA HA!

WE SURE TOOK A LOT OF PHOTOS...

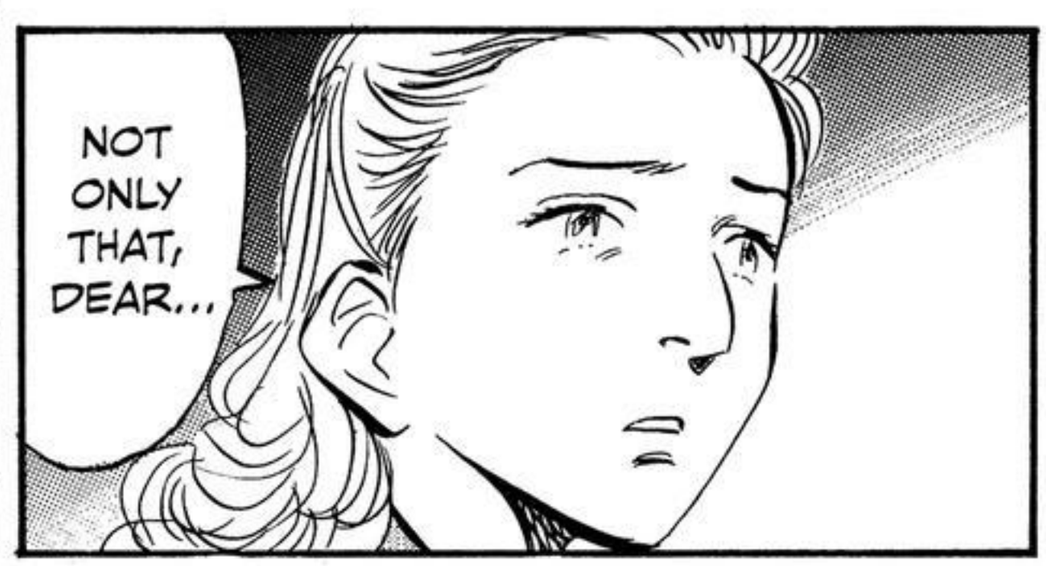


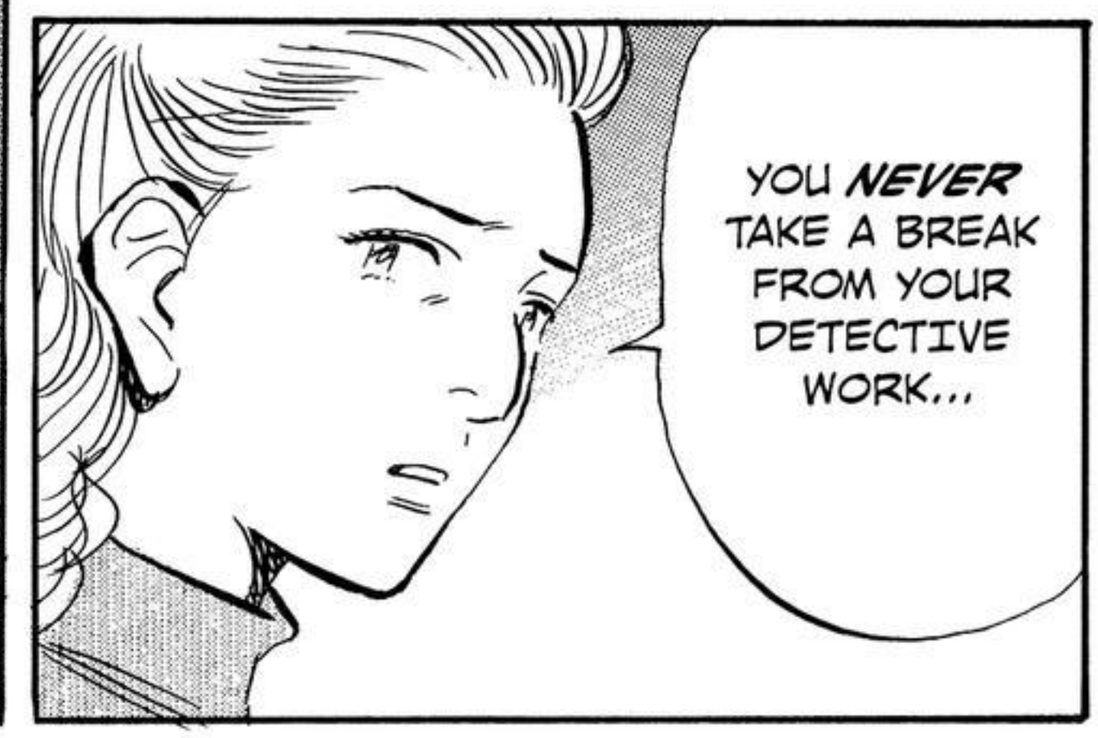

MAYBE *TOO MANY* ...?

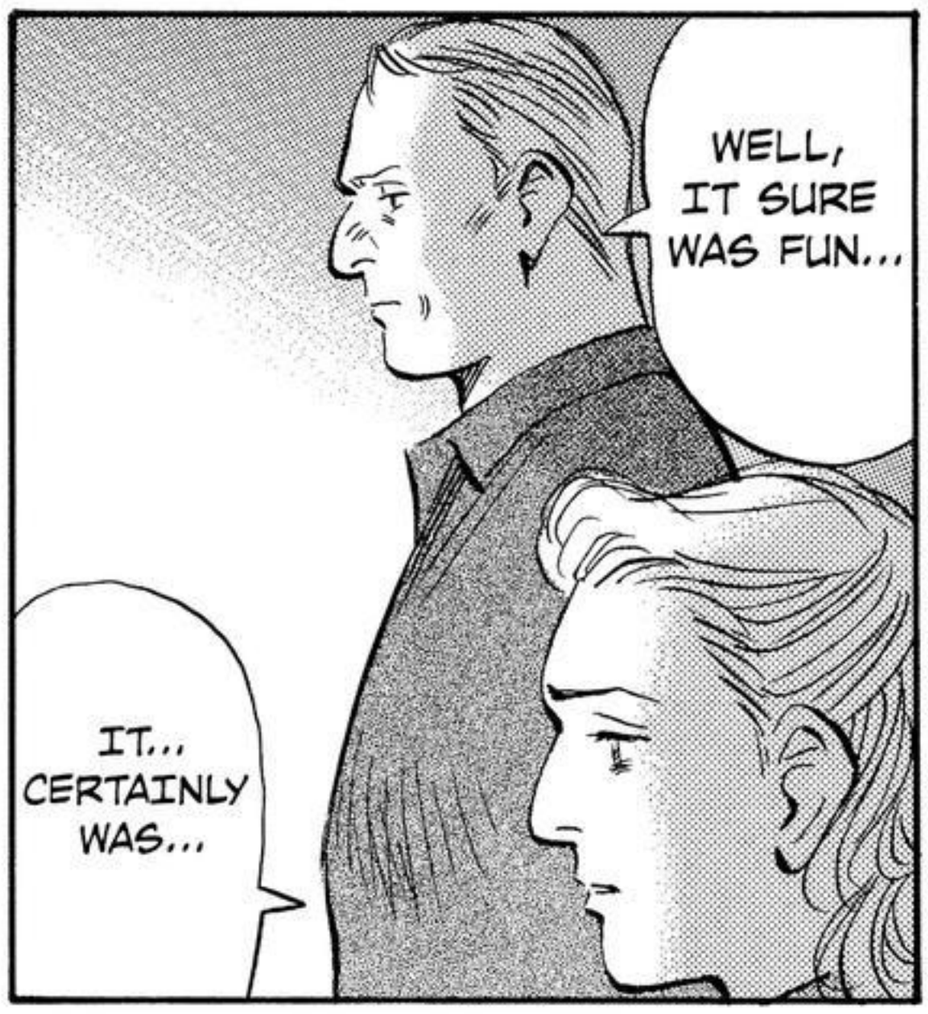


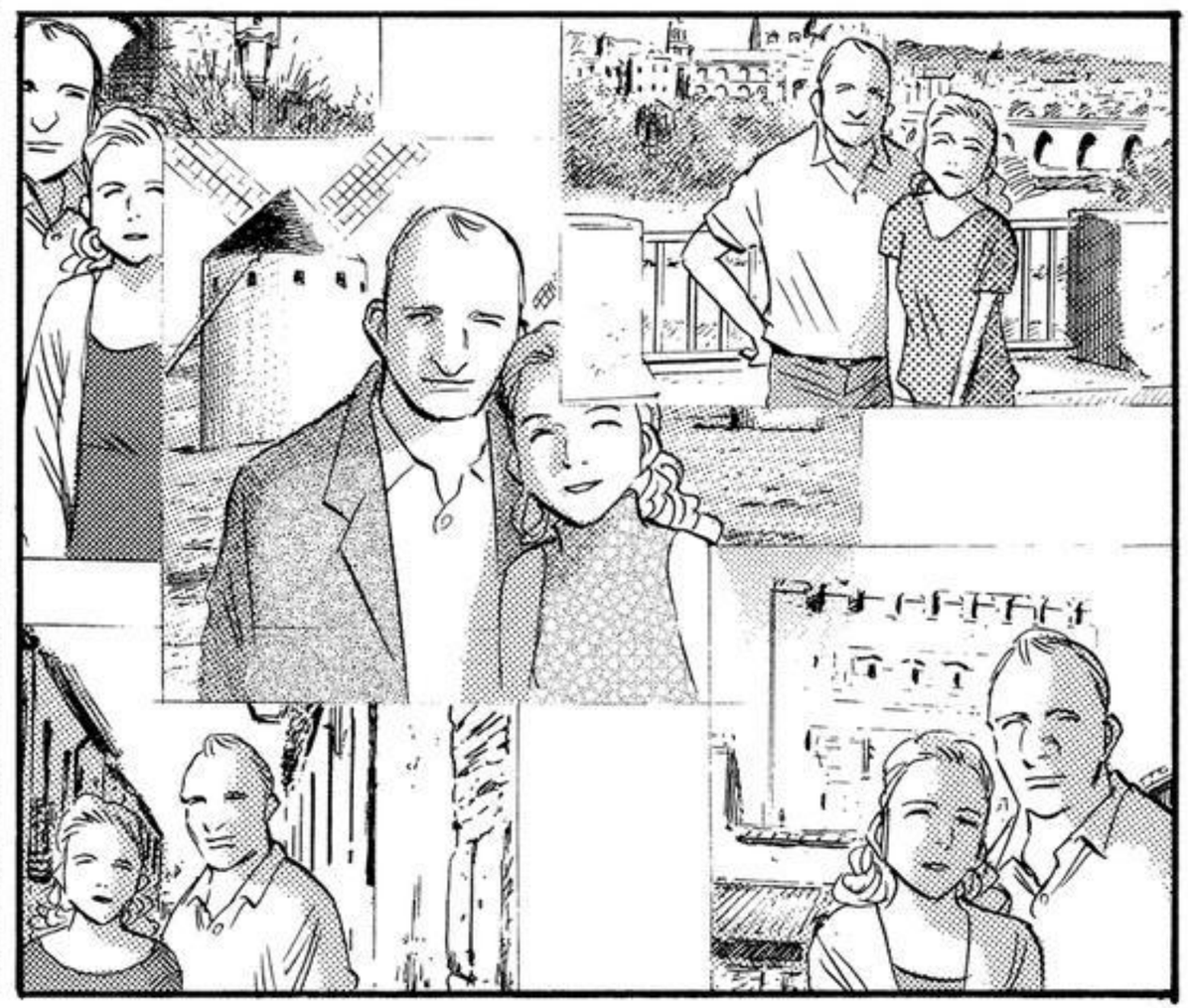

THIS TRAINING TRIP WAS SUPPOSED TO BE PART WORK, PART VACATION, BUT HOW'D YOU GET SO *MUCH* FREE TIME...?

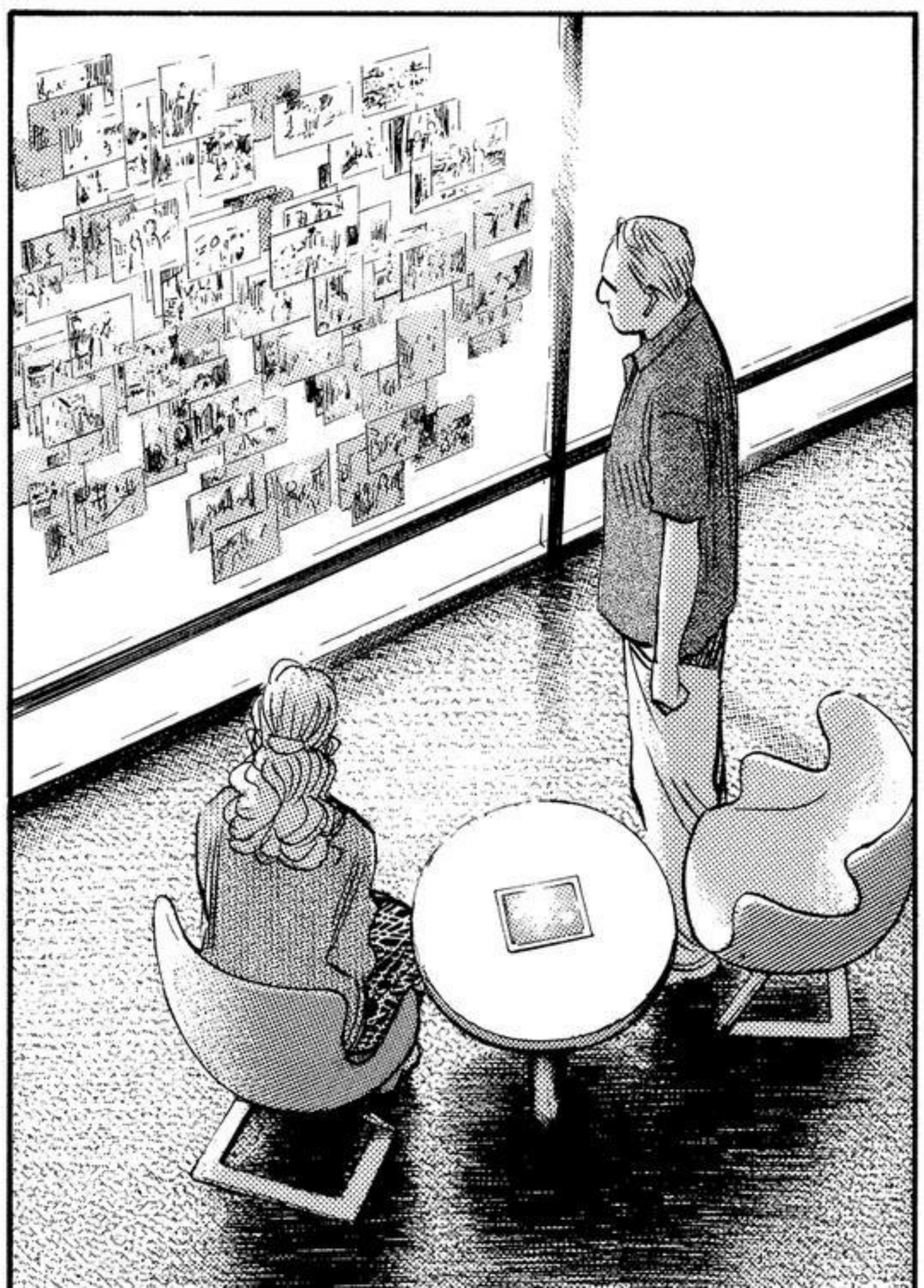
RIGHT... TRYING TO ACT HUMAN IS ONE THING, BUT WE NEVER TAKE *THIS* MANY...

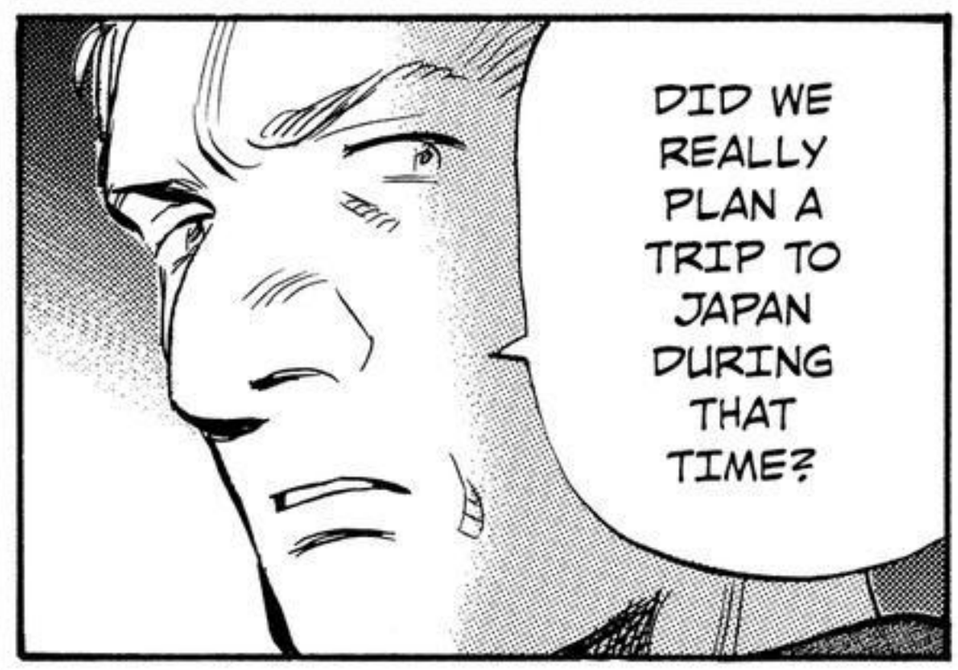

NOT ONLY THAT, DEAR...

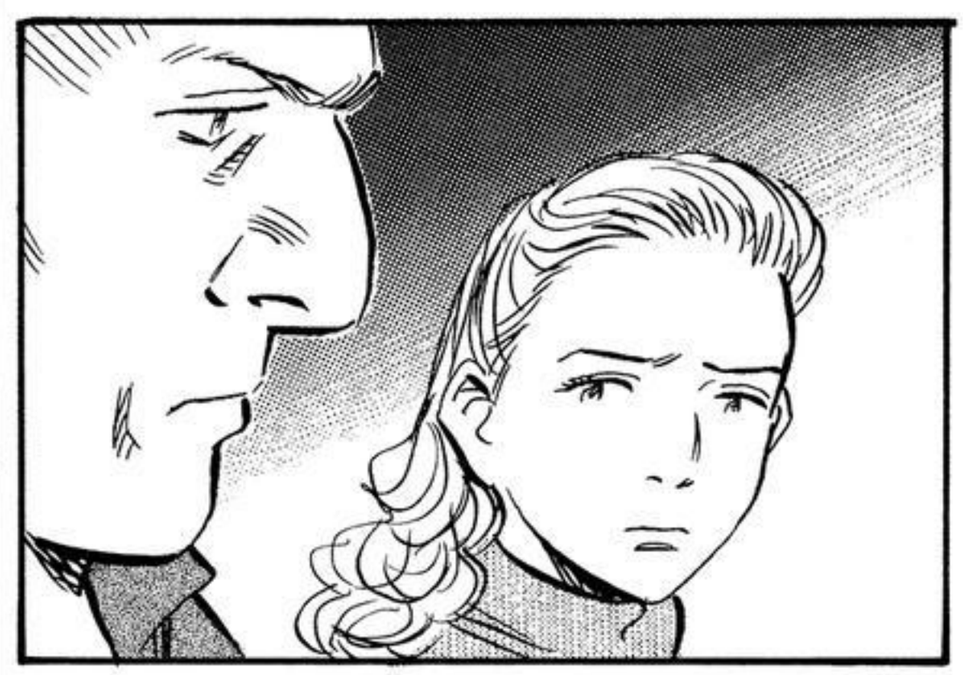

YOU NEVER TAKE A BREAK FROM YOUR DETECTIVE WORK...


WELL, IT SURE WAS FUN...
IT... CERTAINLY WAS...





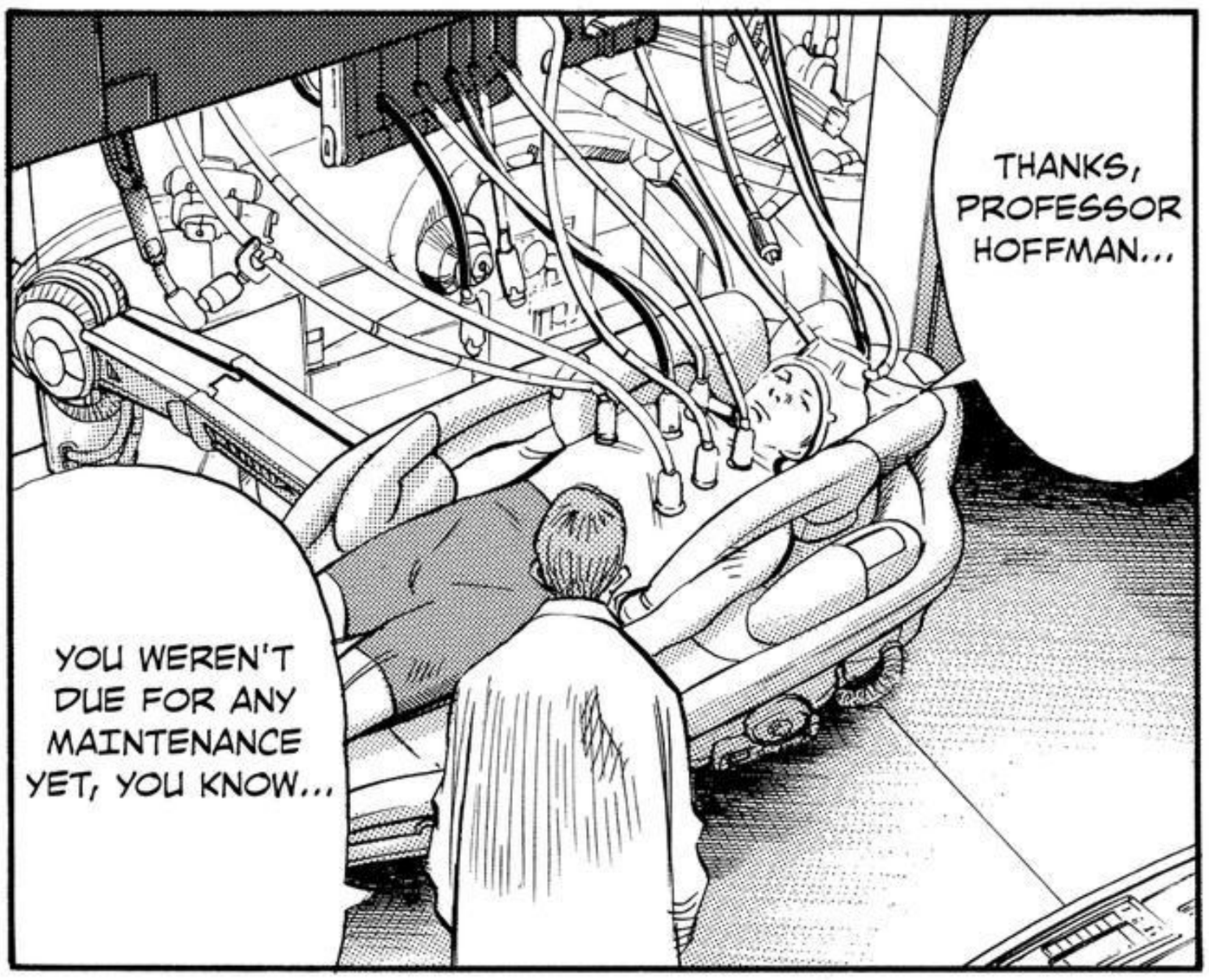

DID WE REALLY PLAN A TRIP TO JAPAN DURING THAT TIME?

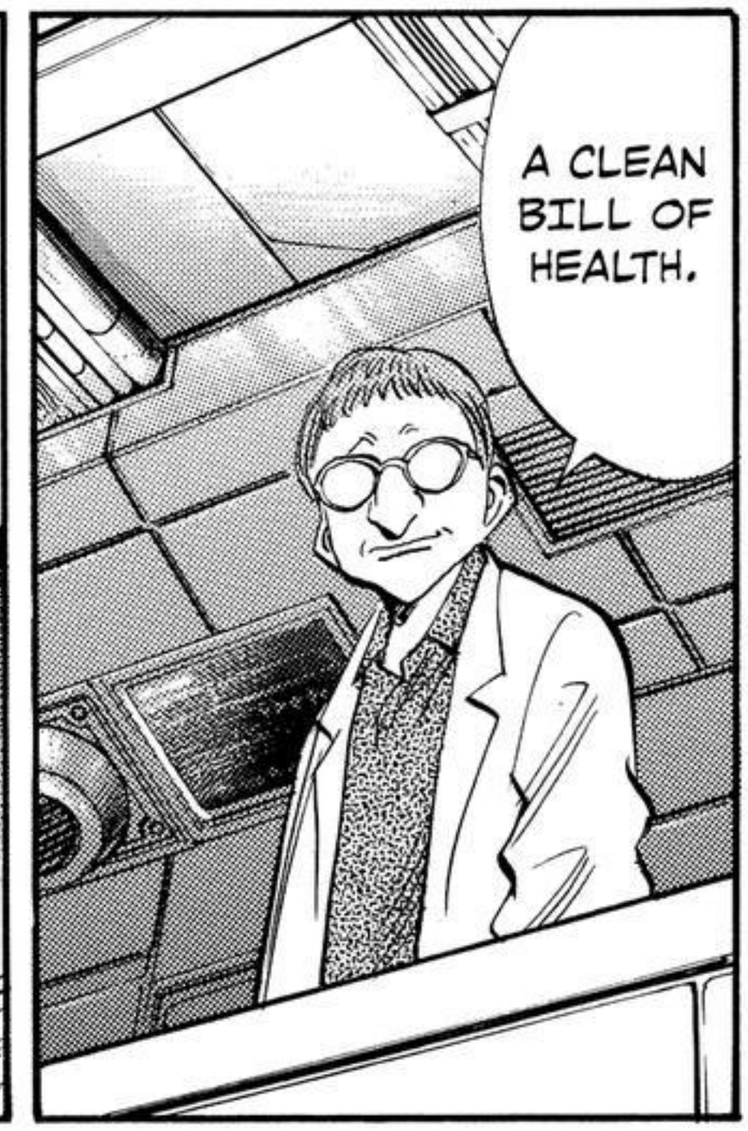


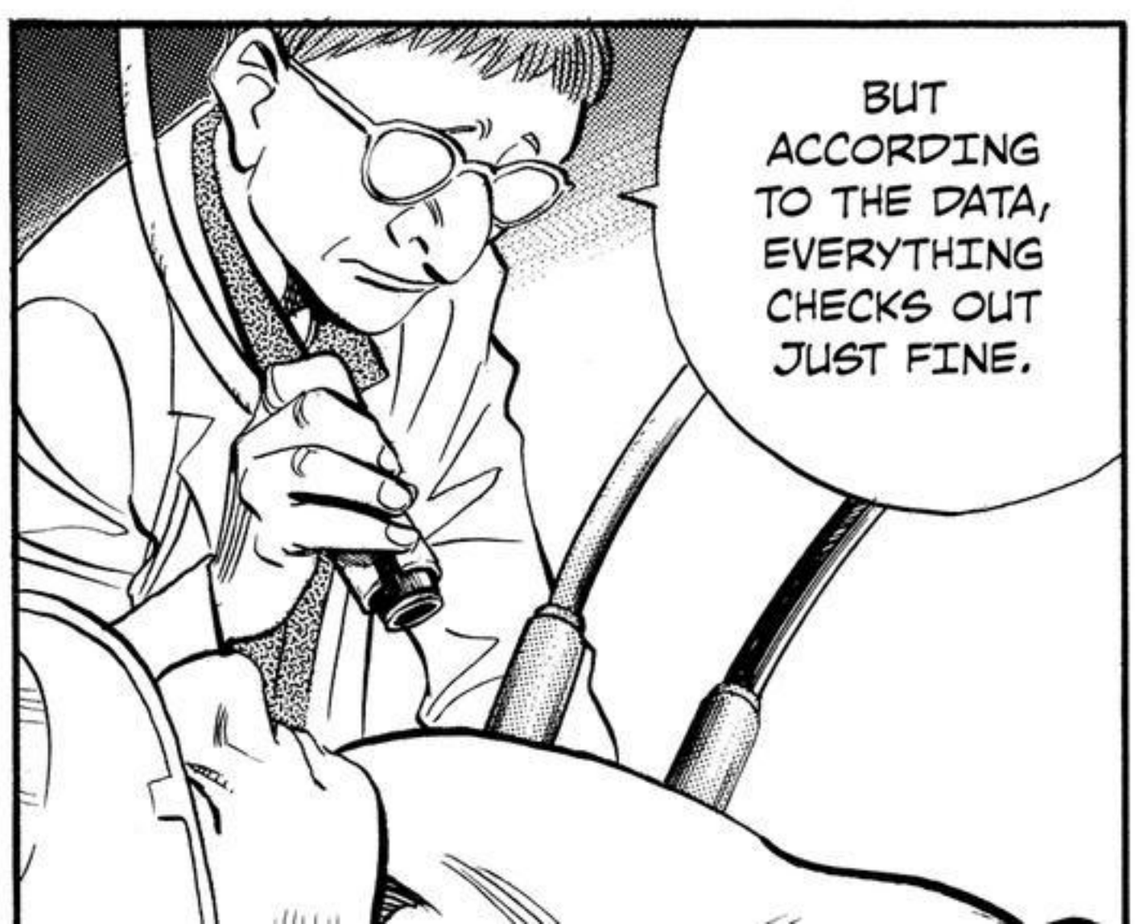
ALL DONE, GESICHT.

ZWEEN—

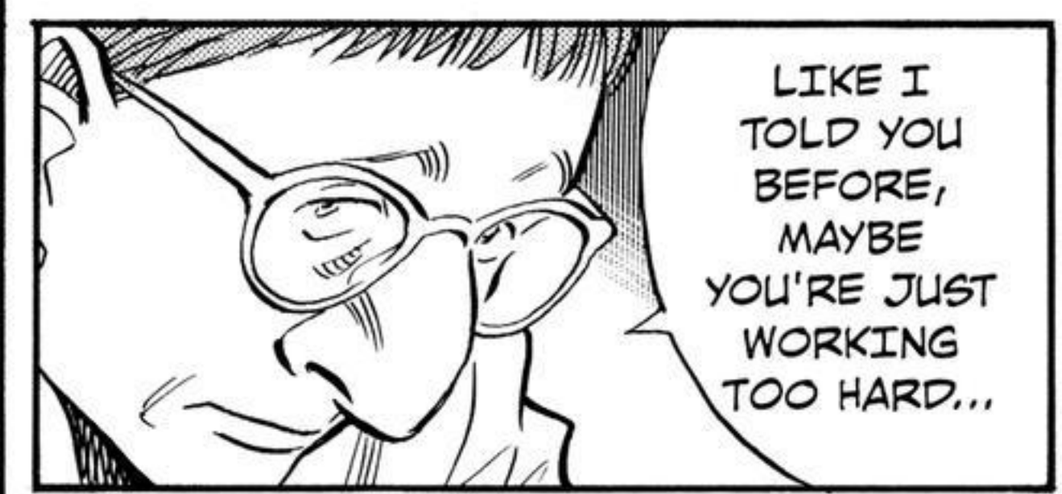
ZWEEN—







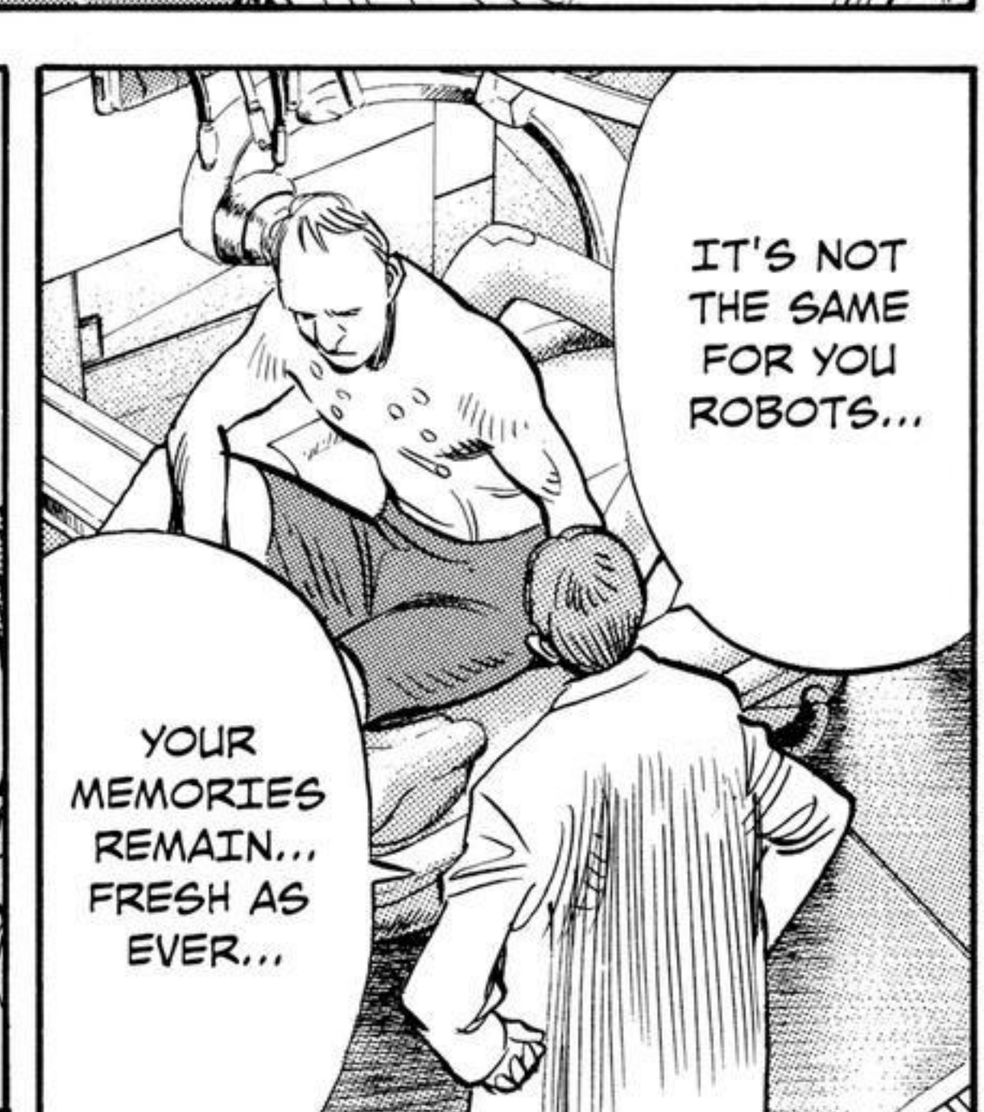
DON'T LET THE BRANDO INCIDENT GET TO YOU, GESICHT.

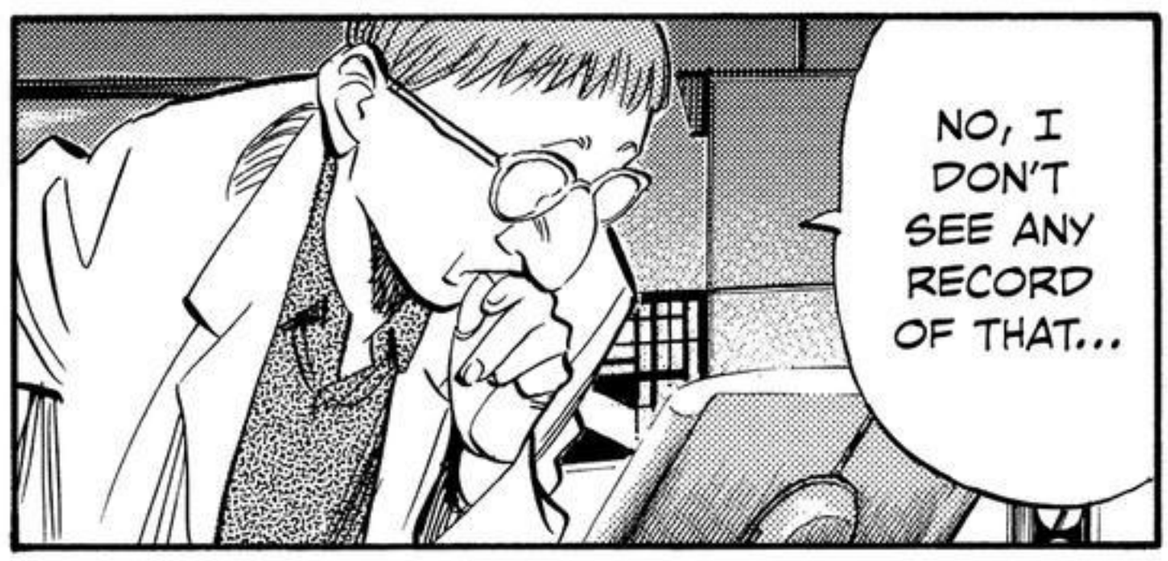

LIKE I TOLD YOU BEFORE, MAYBE YOU'RE JUST WORKING TOO HARD...

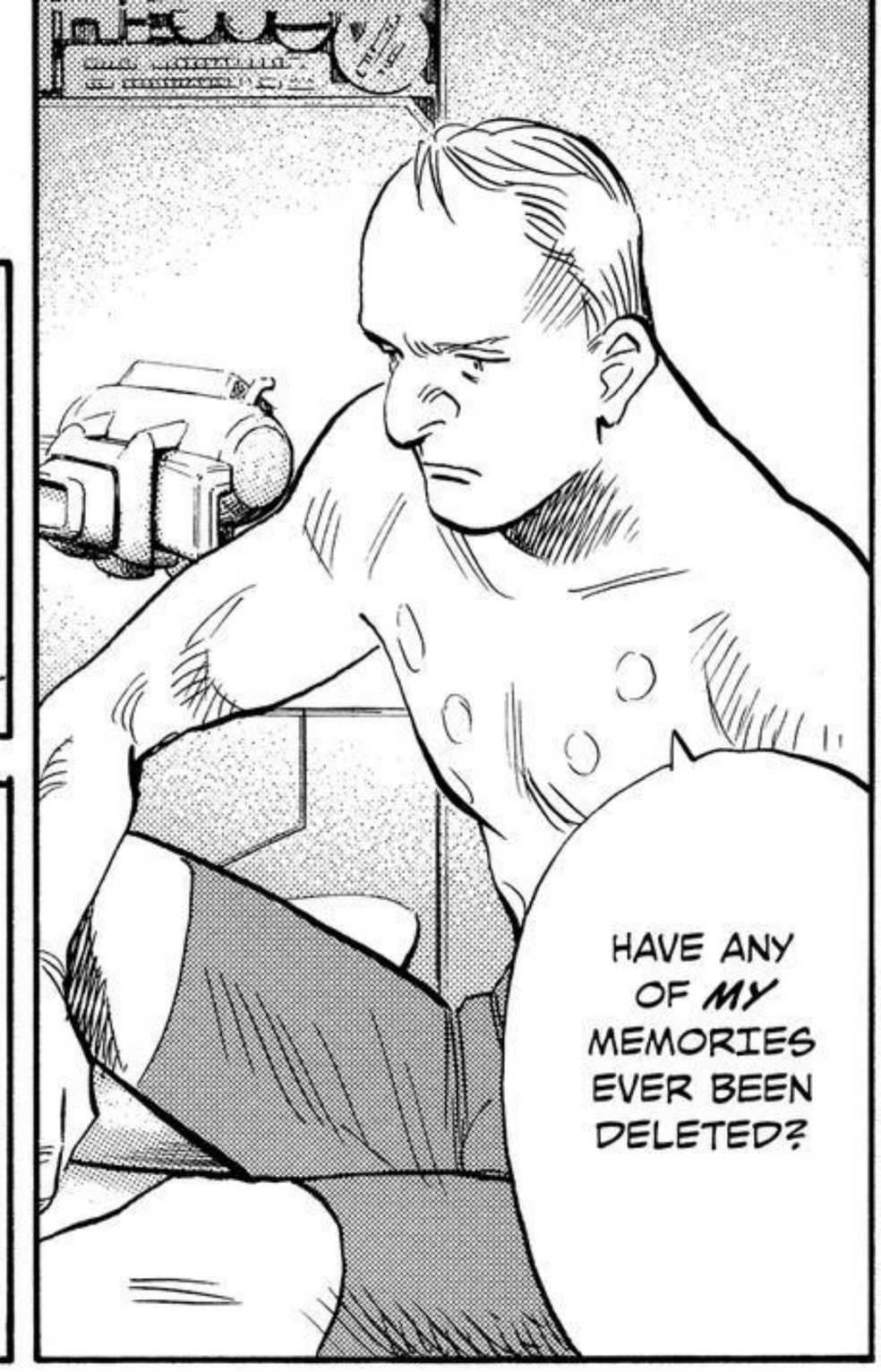
BUT HUMANS CAN JUST FORGET...
HANG ON TO TOO MANY DIFFICULT MEMORIES AND LIFE CAN GET PRETTY TOUGH...

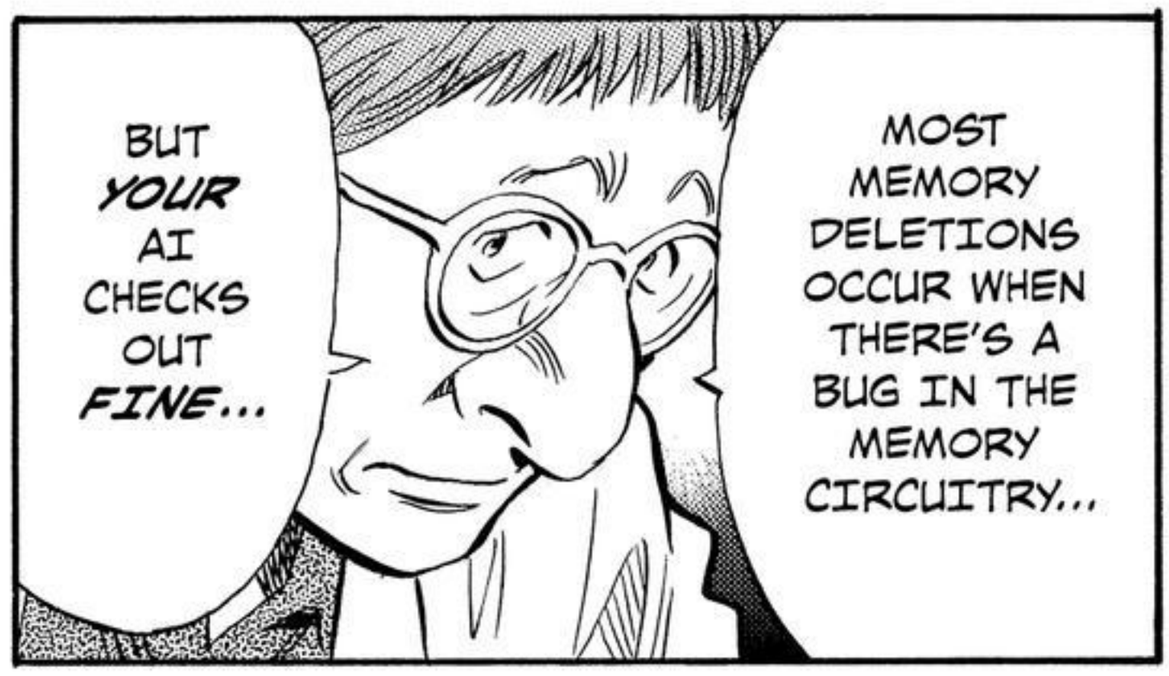
WE HAVE THE FUNCTION TO *FORGET*...
HUMAN MEMORY'S QUITE CONVEN-IENT.

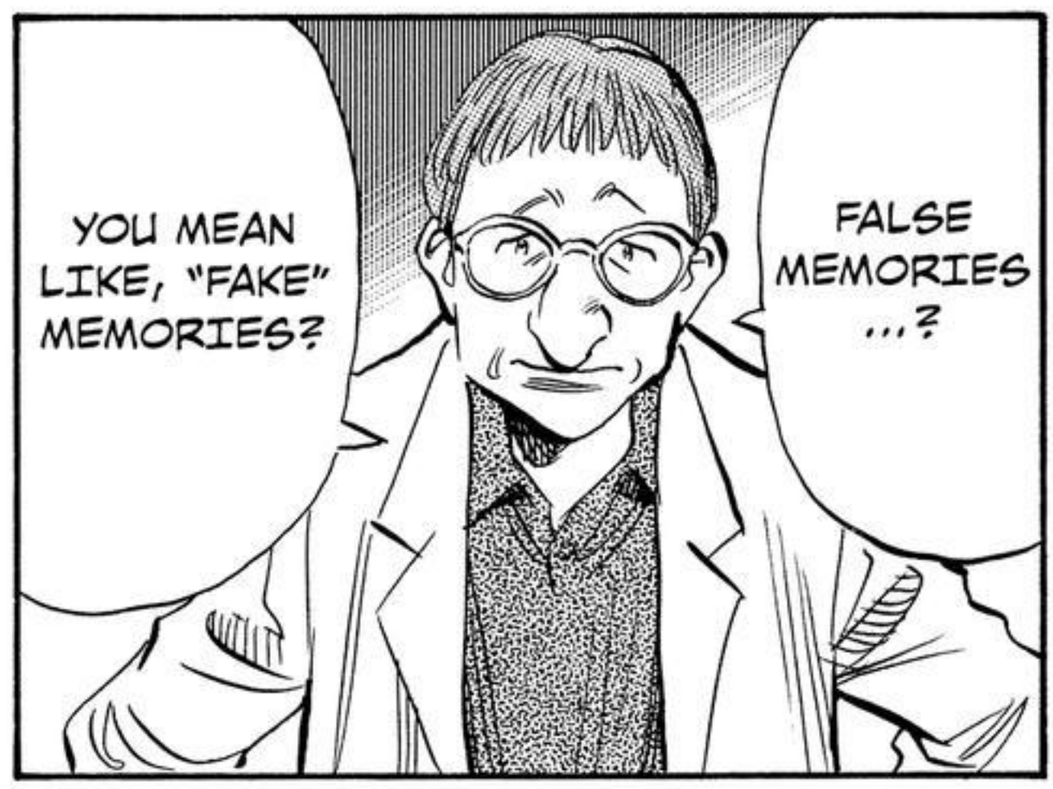
THE ONLY SOLUTION FOR YOU IS TO *DELETE* THEM.

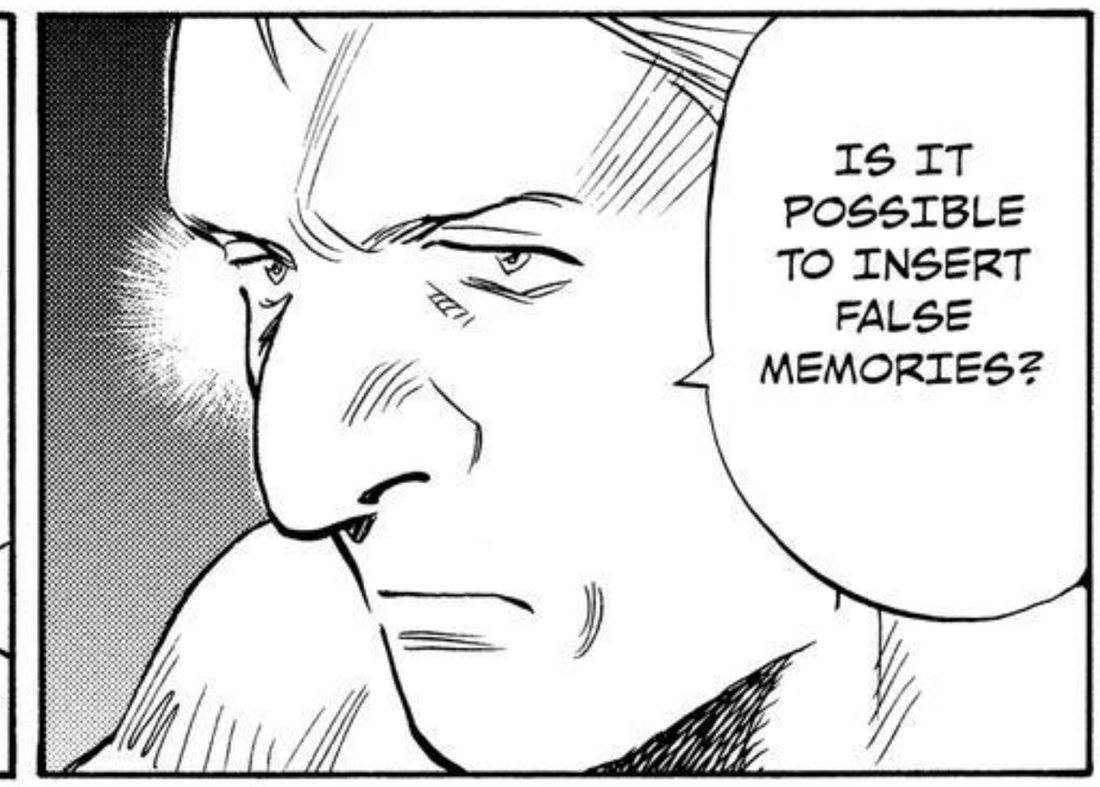

IT'S NOT THE SAME FOR YOU ROBOTS...
YOUR MEMORIES REMAIN... FRESH AS EVER...

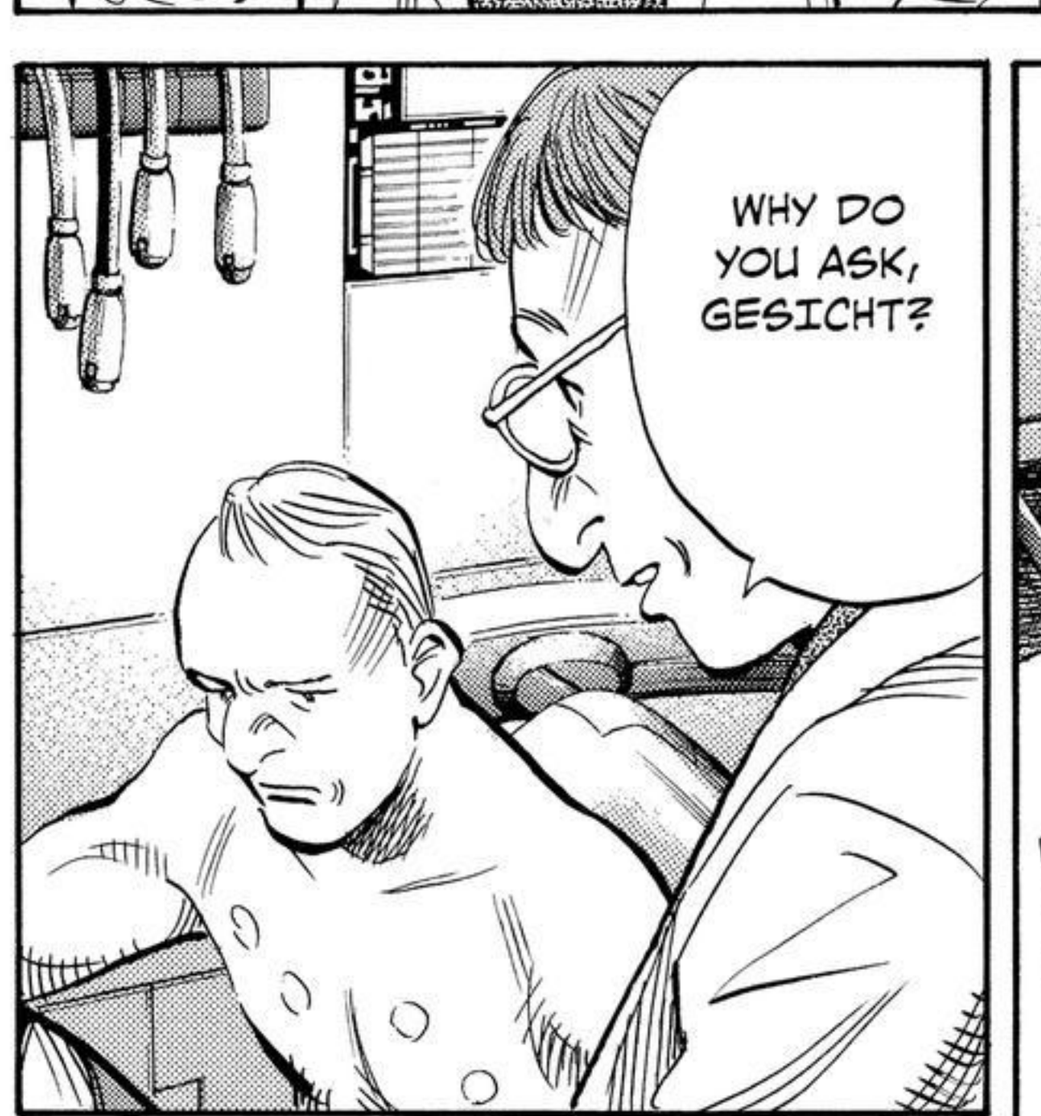

NO, I DON'T SEE ANY RECORD OF THAT...


HAVE ANY OF MY MEMORIES EVER BEEN DELETED?

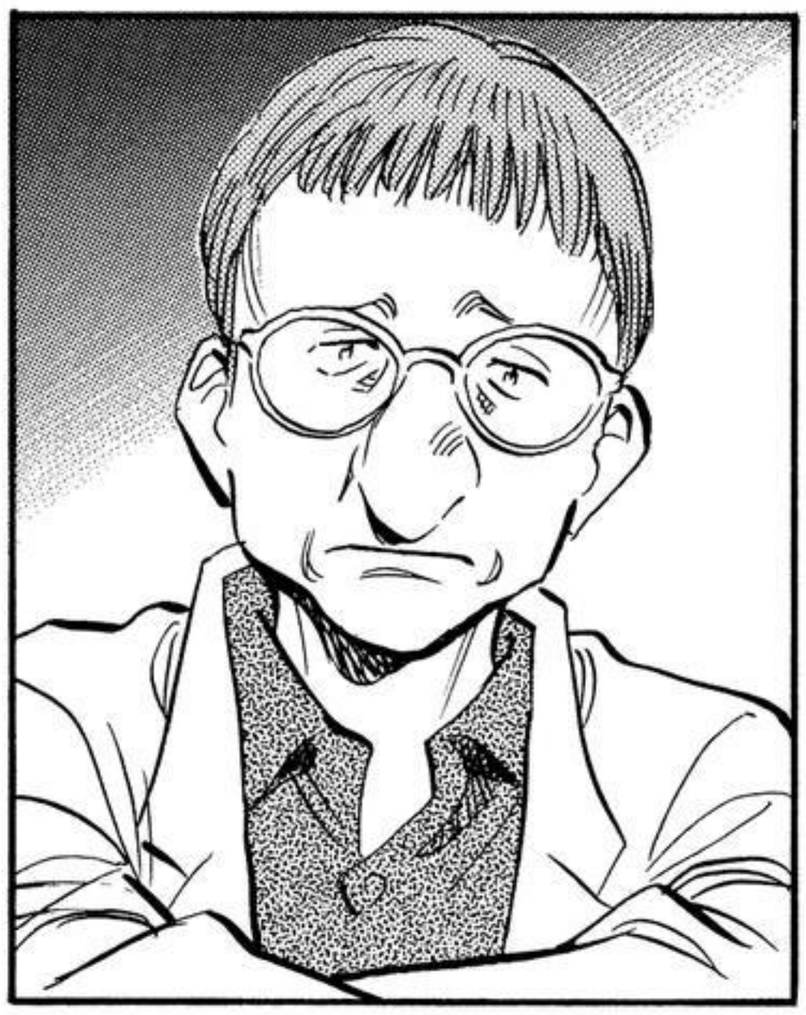

BUT YOUR AI CHECKS OUT FINE...
MOST MEMORY DELETIONS OCCUR WHEN THERE'S A BUG IN THE MEMORY CIRCUITRY...

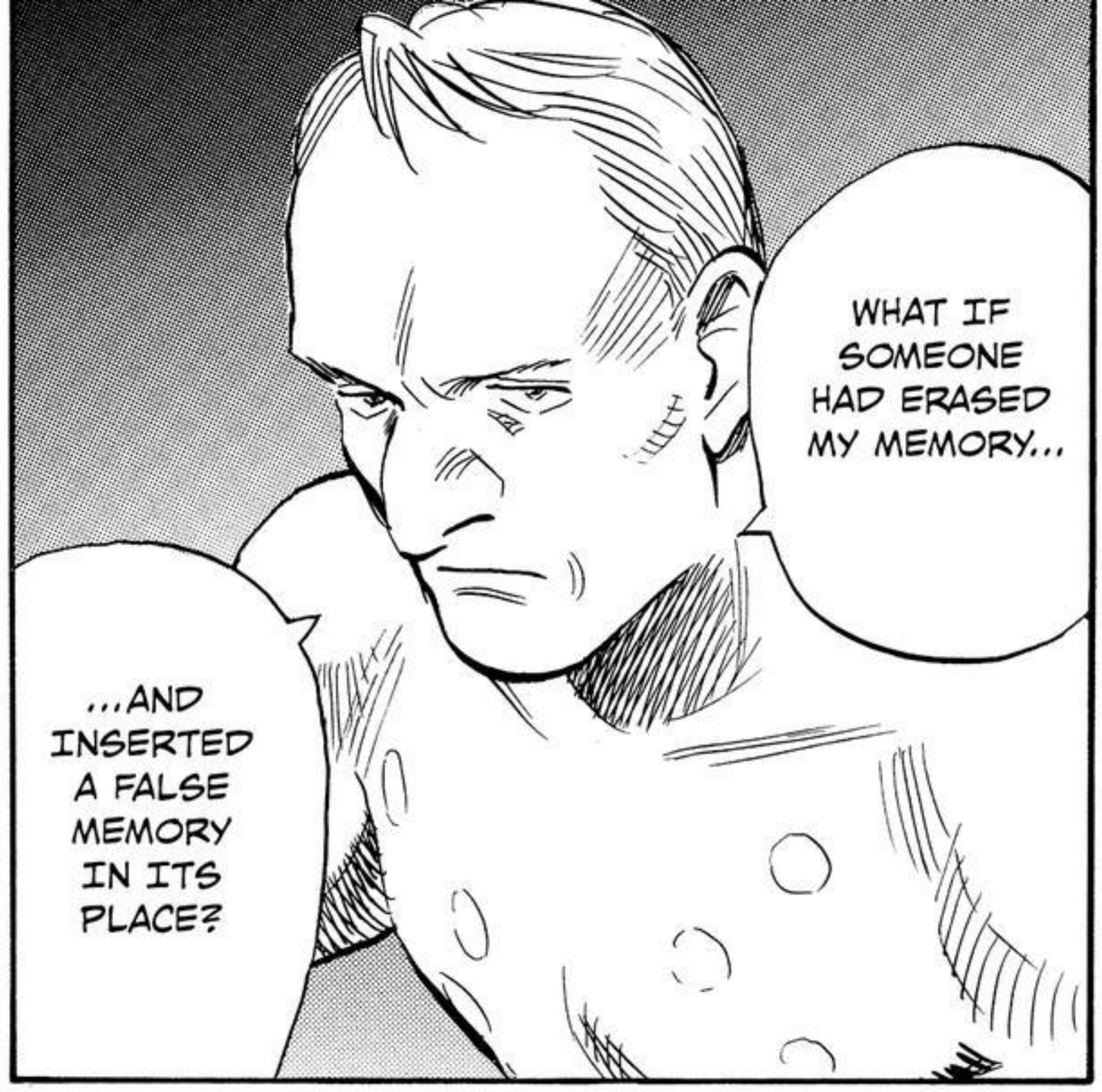

YOU MEAN LIKE, "FAKE" MEMORIES?
FALSE MEMORIES ...?

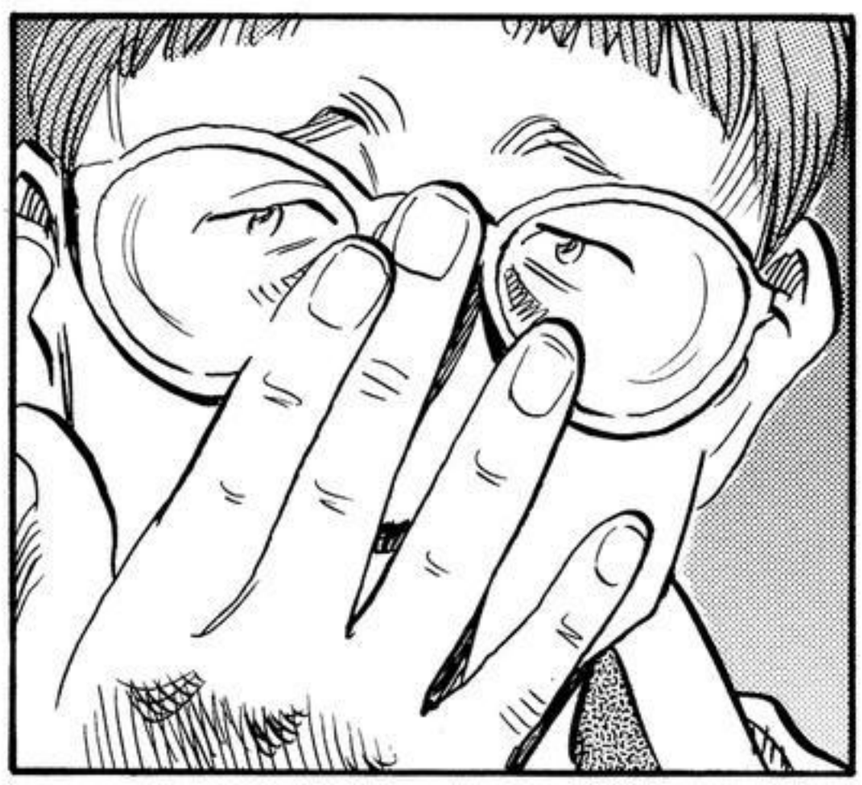

IS IT POSSIBLE TO INSERT FALSE MEMORIES?


WHY DO YOU ASK, GESICHT?

WELL, PLACES LIKE CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES WERE KNOWN TO HAVE DONE SOMETHING LIKE THAT...
BUT NOW WE'VE GOT THE ROBOT LAWS, AND ROBOTS HAVE RIGHTS, NO?




WHAT IF SOMEONE HAD ERASED MY MEMORY...
...AND INSERTED A FALSE MEMORY IN ITS PLACE?

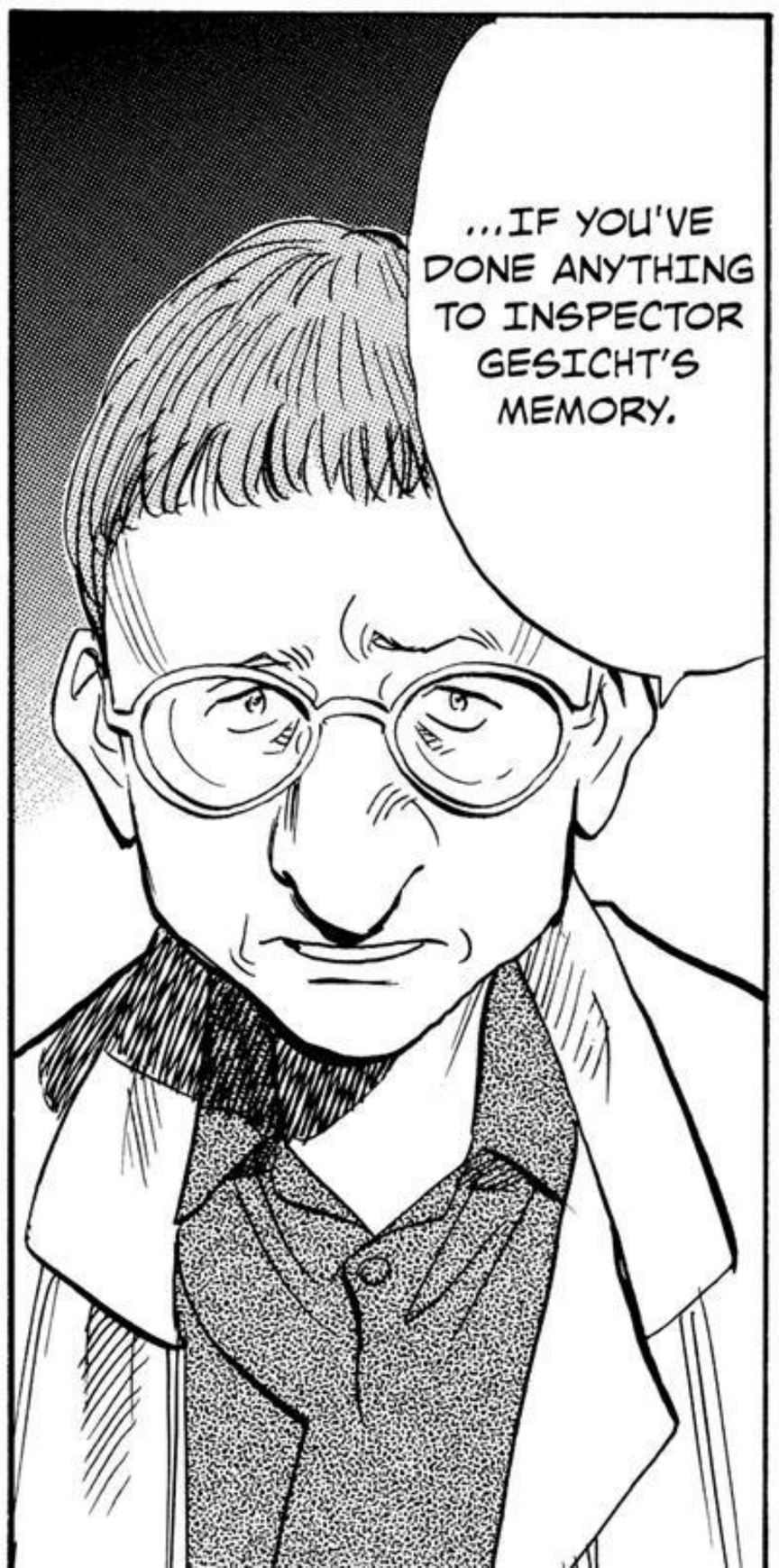


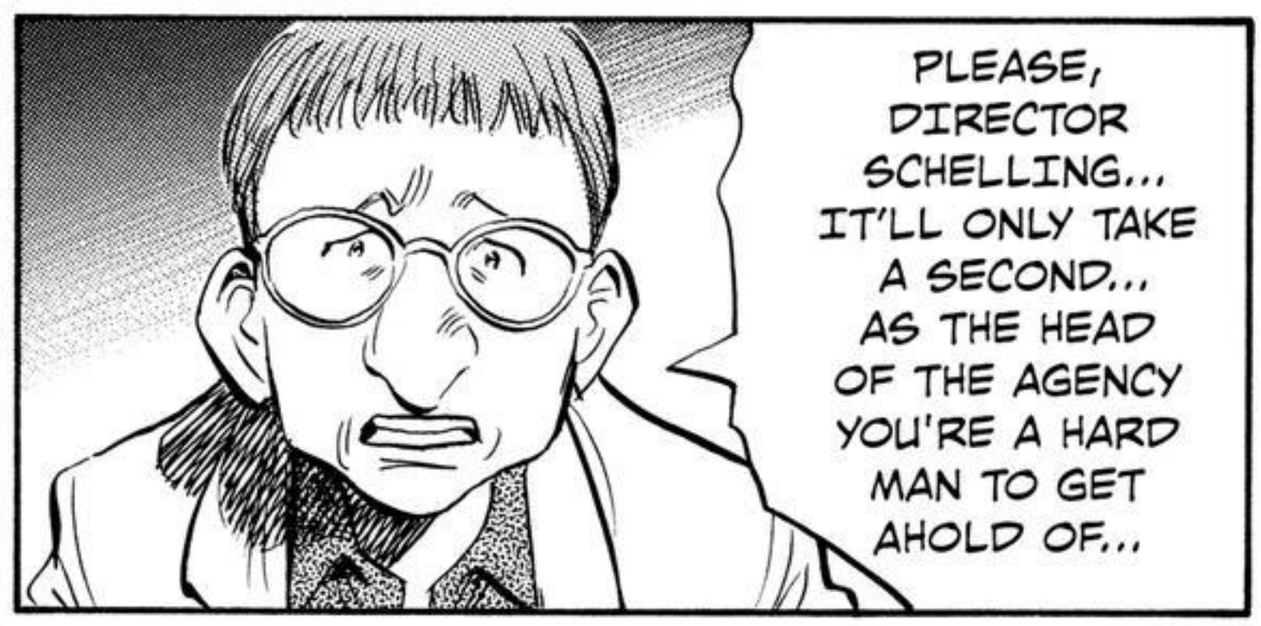
COULD THAT BE THE REASON I KEEP HAVING NIGHTMARES?

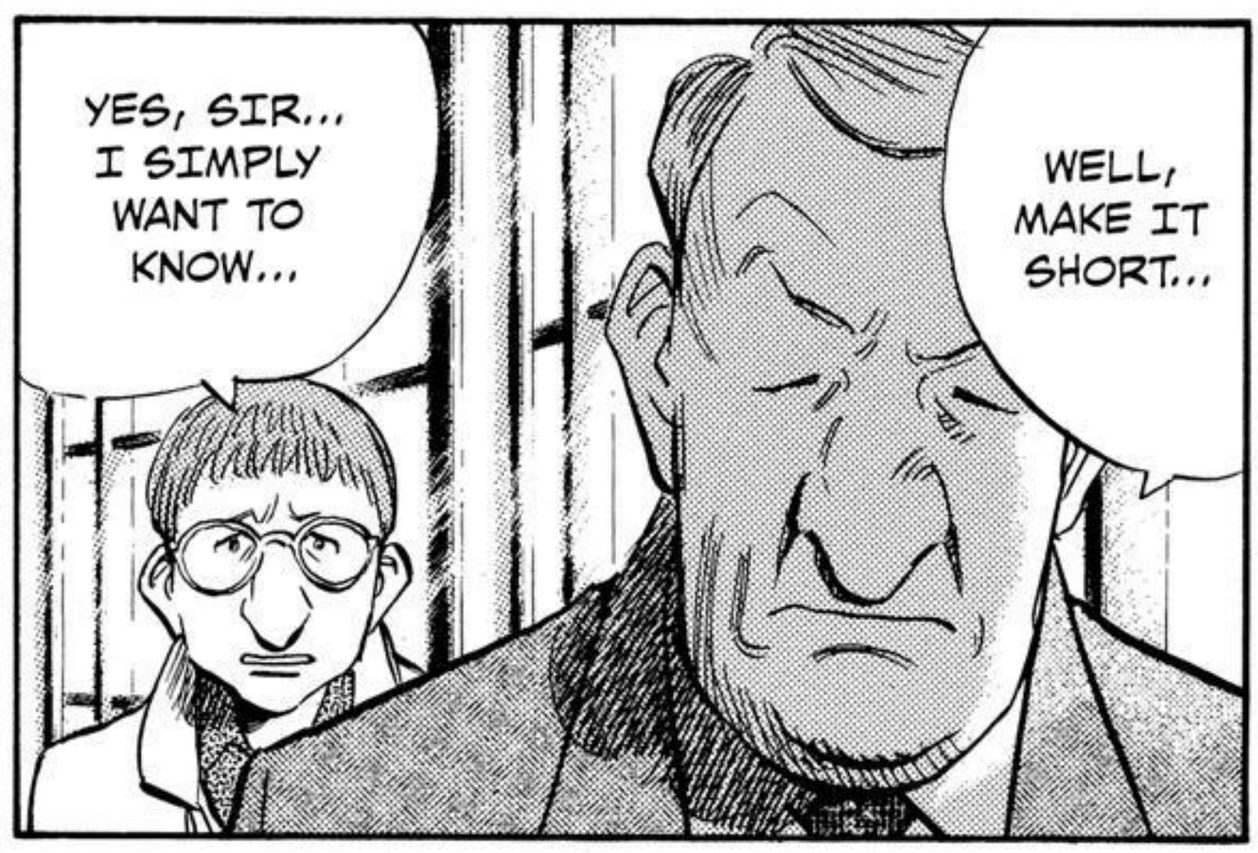
HMMM... THAT'S CERTAINLY AN INTERESTING IDEA...

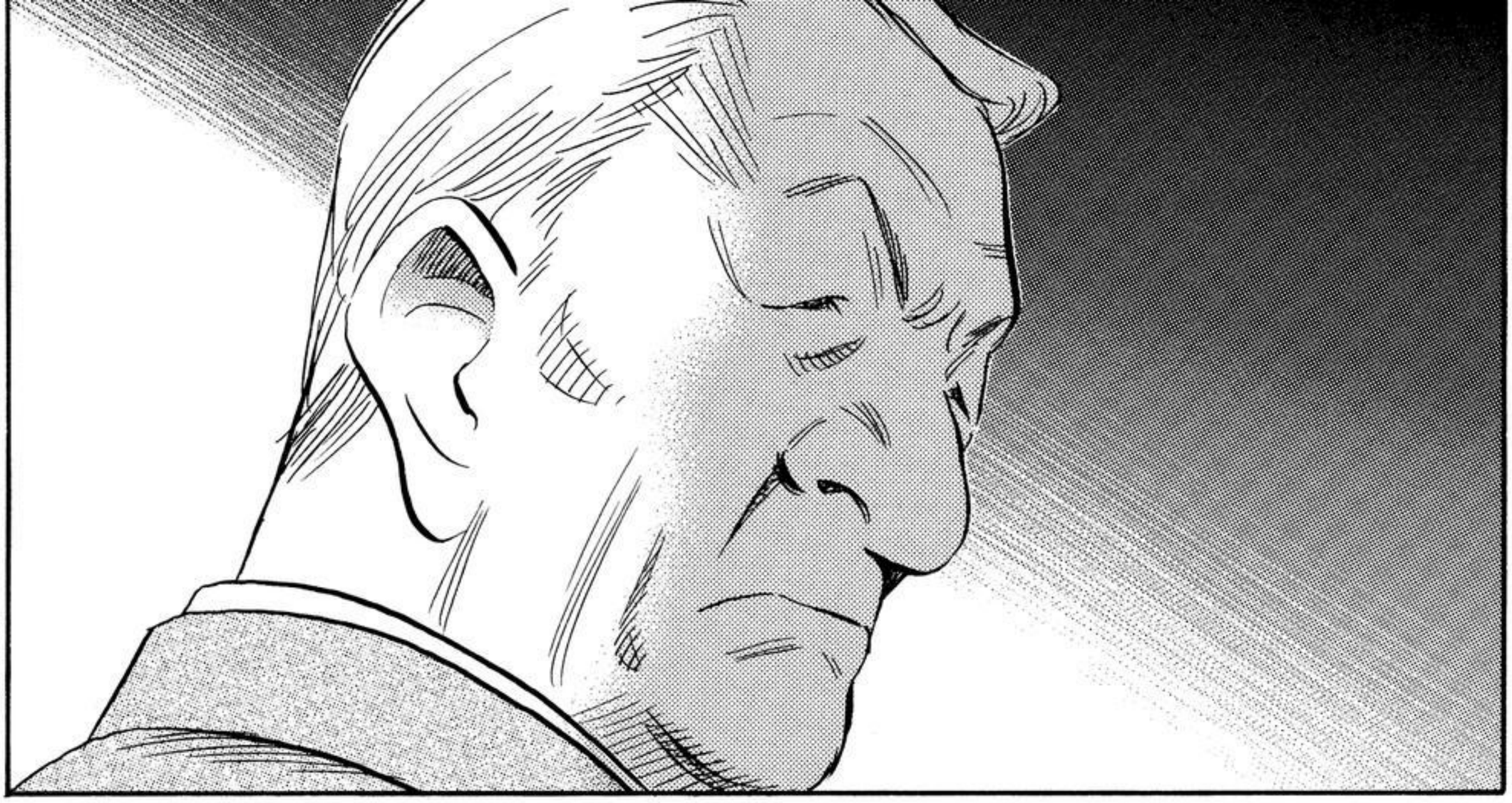
LISTEN, HOFFMAN... I'VE GOT A MEETING... CAN'T WE TALK LATER?

EUROPOL, GERMAN DIVISION


...IF YOU'VE DONE ANYTHING TO INSPECTOR GESICHT'S MEMORY.


PLEASE, DIRECTOR SCHELLING... IT'LL ONLY TAKE A SECOND... AS THE HEAD OF THE AGENCY YOU'RE A HARD MAN TO GET AHOLD OF...

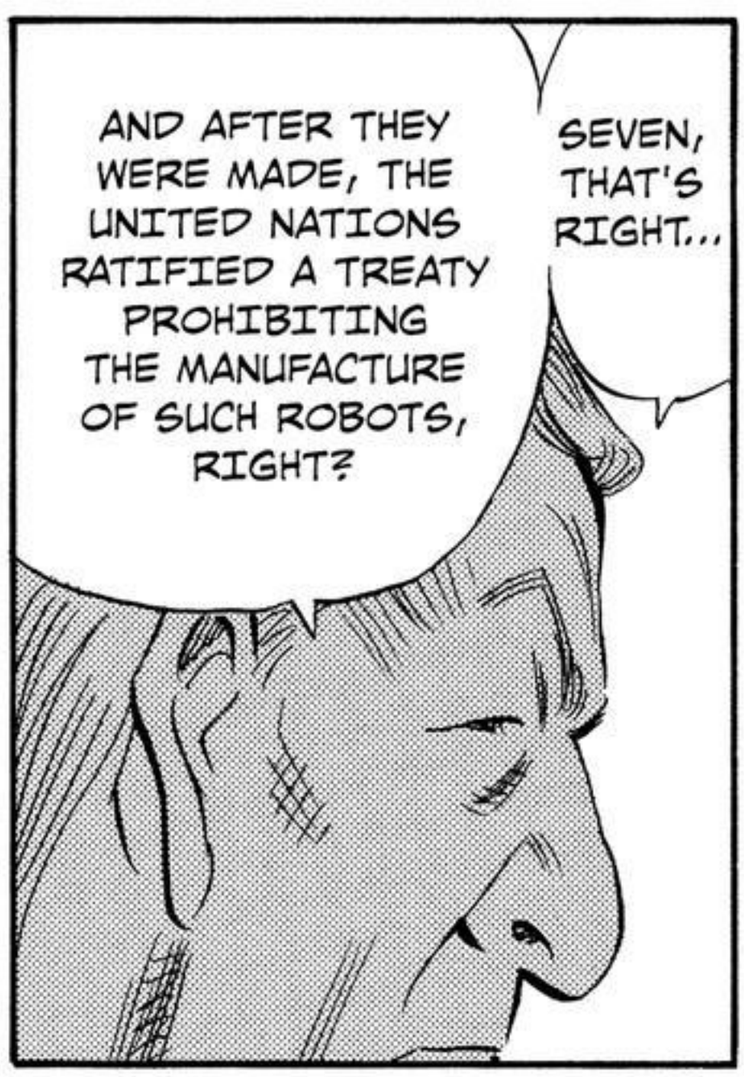

YES, SIR... I SIMPLY WANT TO KNOW...
WELL, MAKE IT SHORT...



HOW MANY ROBOTS OF GESICHT'S DEGREE OF SOPHISTICATION DO YOU THINK THERE ARE IN THE WORLD, HOFFMAN?

KLAK
KLAK
SIR! PLEASE!

HUH?

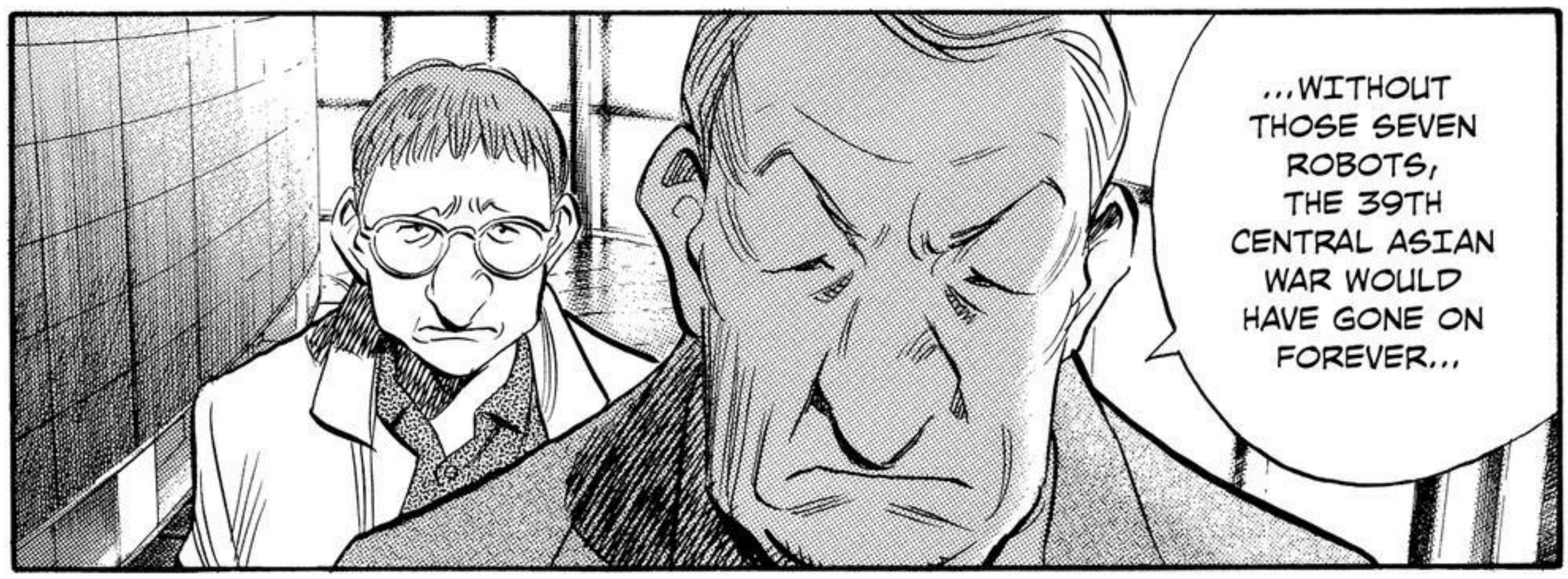

AND AFTER THEY WERE MADE, THE UNITED NATIONS RATIFIED A TREATY PROHIBITING THE MANUFACTURE OF SUCH ROBOTS, RIGHT?
SEVEN, THAT'S RIGHT...

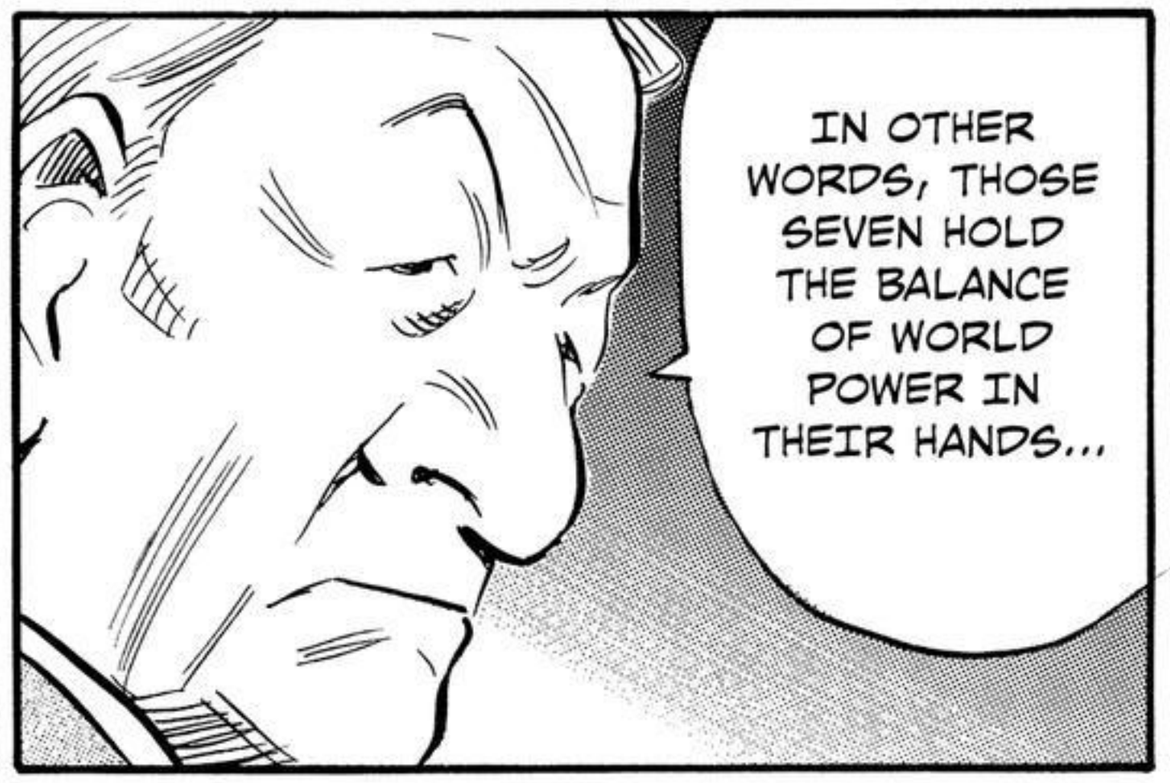
I KNOW THAT ALL IN ALL, THERE ARE SEVEN, SIR. WHY DO YOU ASK?

HOW MANY ROBOTS IN THE WORLD DO YOU THINK COULD BECOME A TRUE WEAPON OF MASS DESTRUCTION ...?

SIR?!
...THE PERSIAN KINGDOM VIOLATED THE TREATY AND WAS COMPLETELY DESTROYED AS A RESULT...

THE WHOLE EFFORT WAS LED BY NONE OTHER THAN THE UNITED STATES OF THRACIA...
B-BUT WHAT'S THAT GOT TO DO WITH MY QUESTION, SIR?

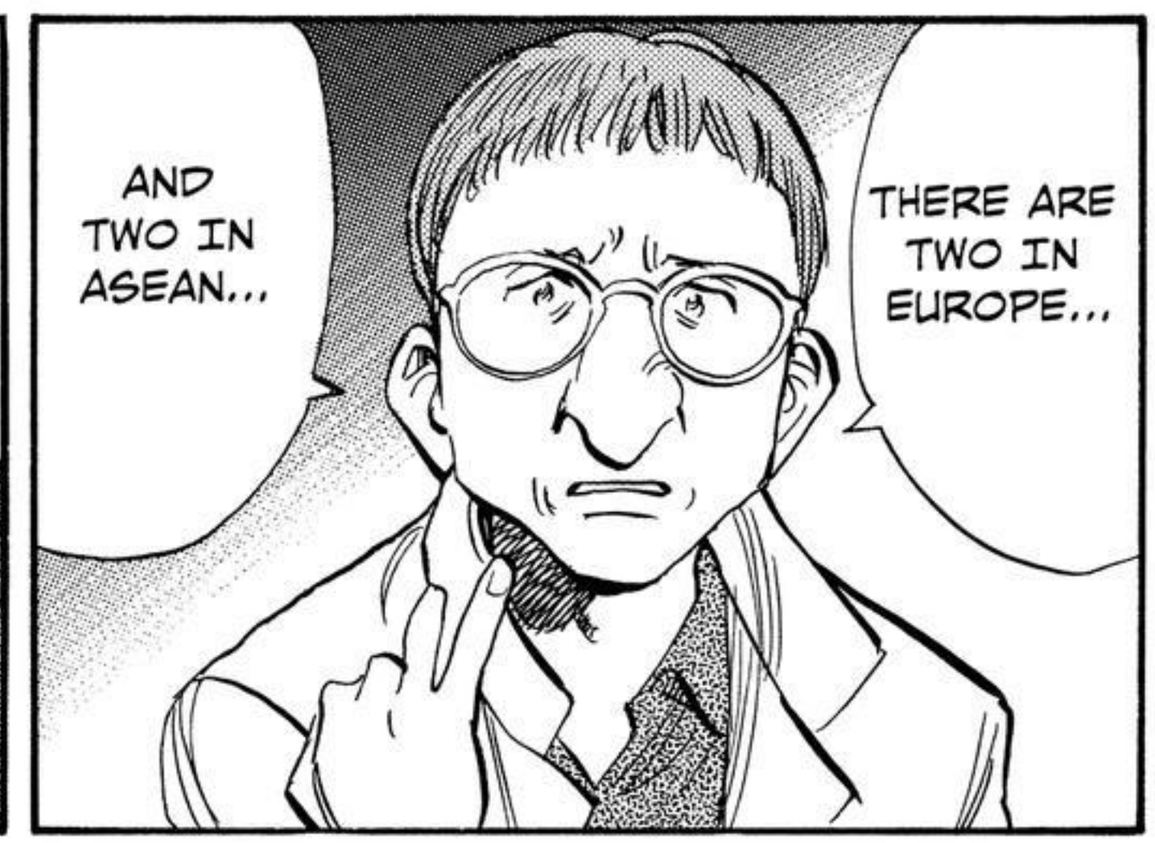

...WITHOUT THOSE SEVEN ROBOTS, THE 39TH CENTRAL ASIAN WAR WOULD HAVE GONE ON FOREVER...


IN OTHER WORDS, THOSE SEVEN HOLD THE BALANCE OF WORLD POWER IN THEIR HANDS...

SO HOW MANY ARE LEFT, HOFFMAN?

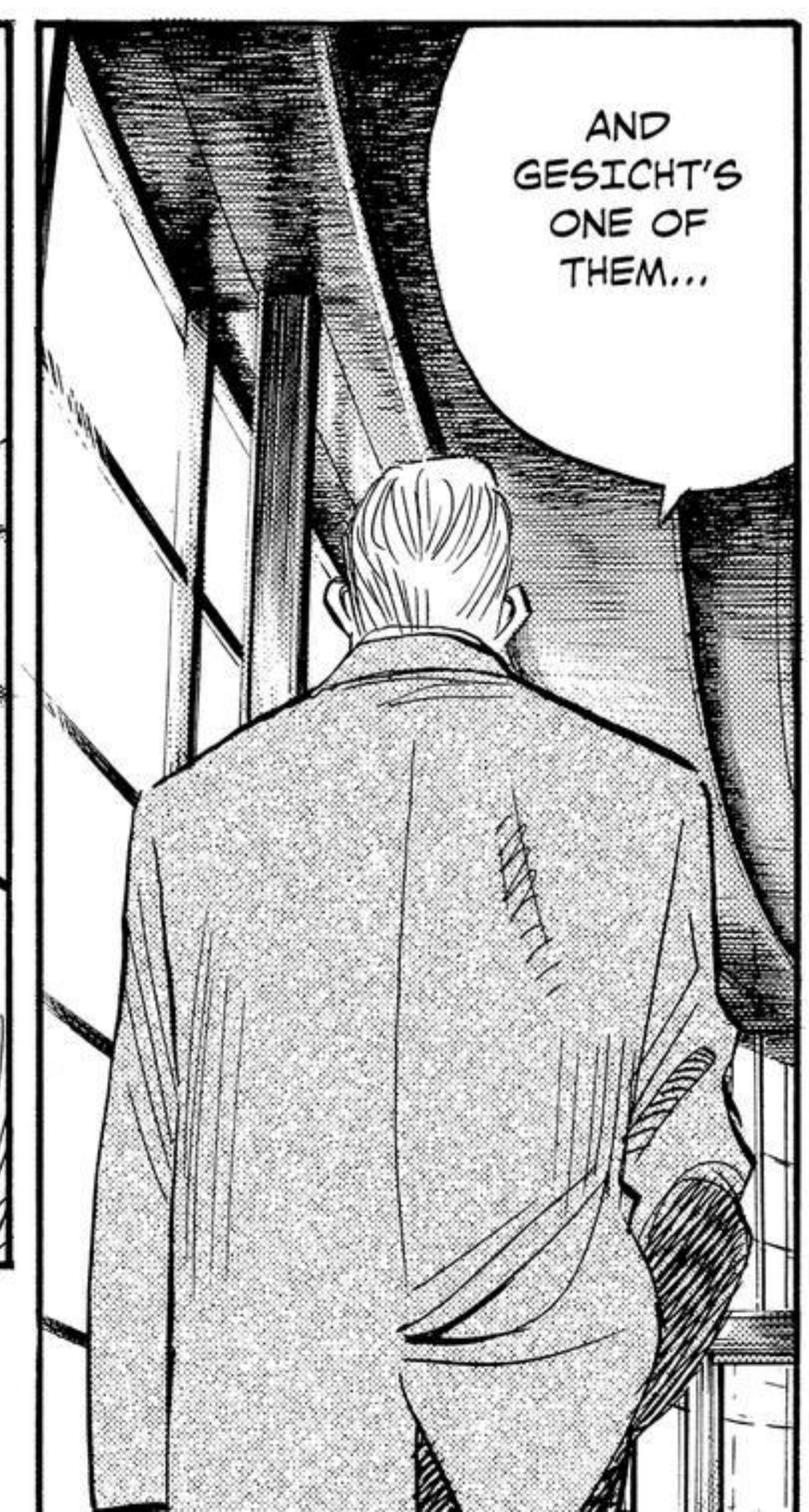
...MONT BLANC, NORTH NO. 2, AND BRANDO- HAVE ALL BEEN DESTROYED...
NOW THREE OF THE ORIGINAL SEVEN ROBOTS...

CORRECT.


AND TWO IN ASEAN...
THERE ARE TWO IN EUROPE...

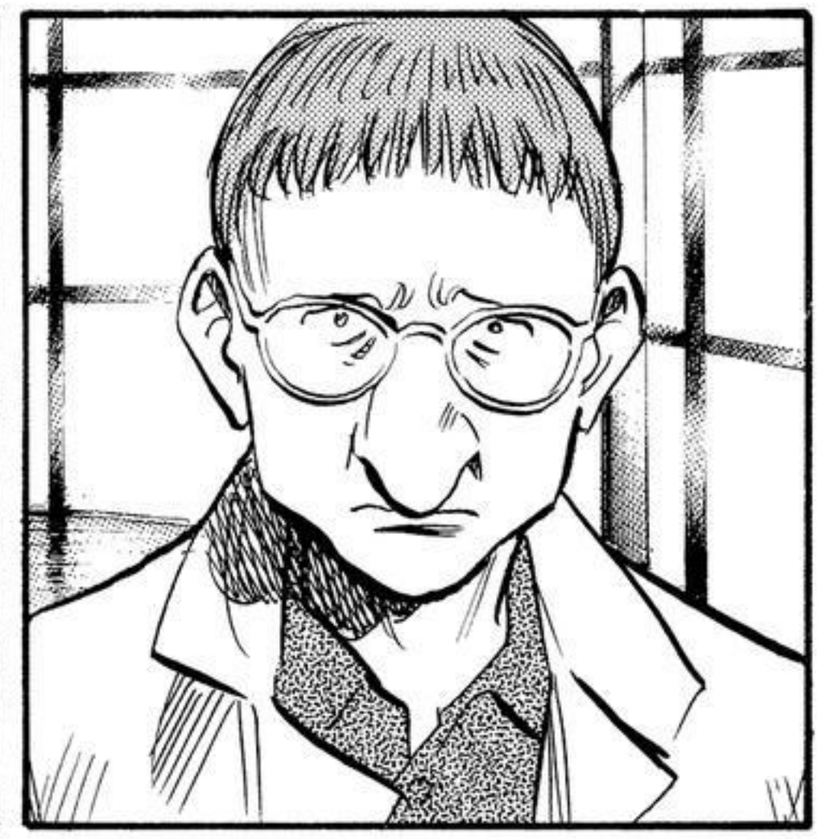
HAVE YOU *DONE* ANYTHING TO HIM? ...TO HIS *AI* I MEAN...

YOU HAVEN'T ANSWERED MY QUESTION...
B- BUT SIR!!


AND GESICHT'S ONE OF THEM...

WE'VE MADE A HUGE INVESTMENT IN GESICHT, HOFFMAN. *HUGE...*

ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS MAKE SURE HE'S PROPERLY MAINTAINED... *THAT'S ALL...*

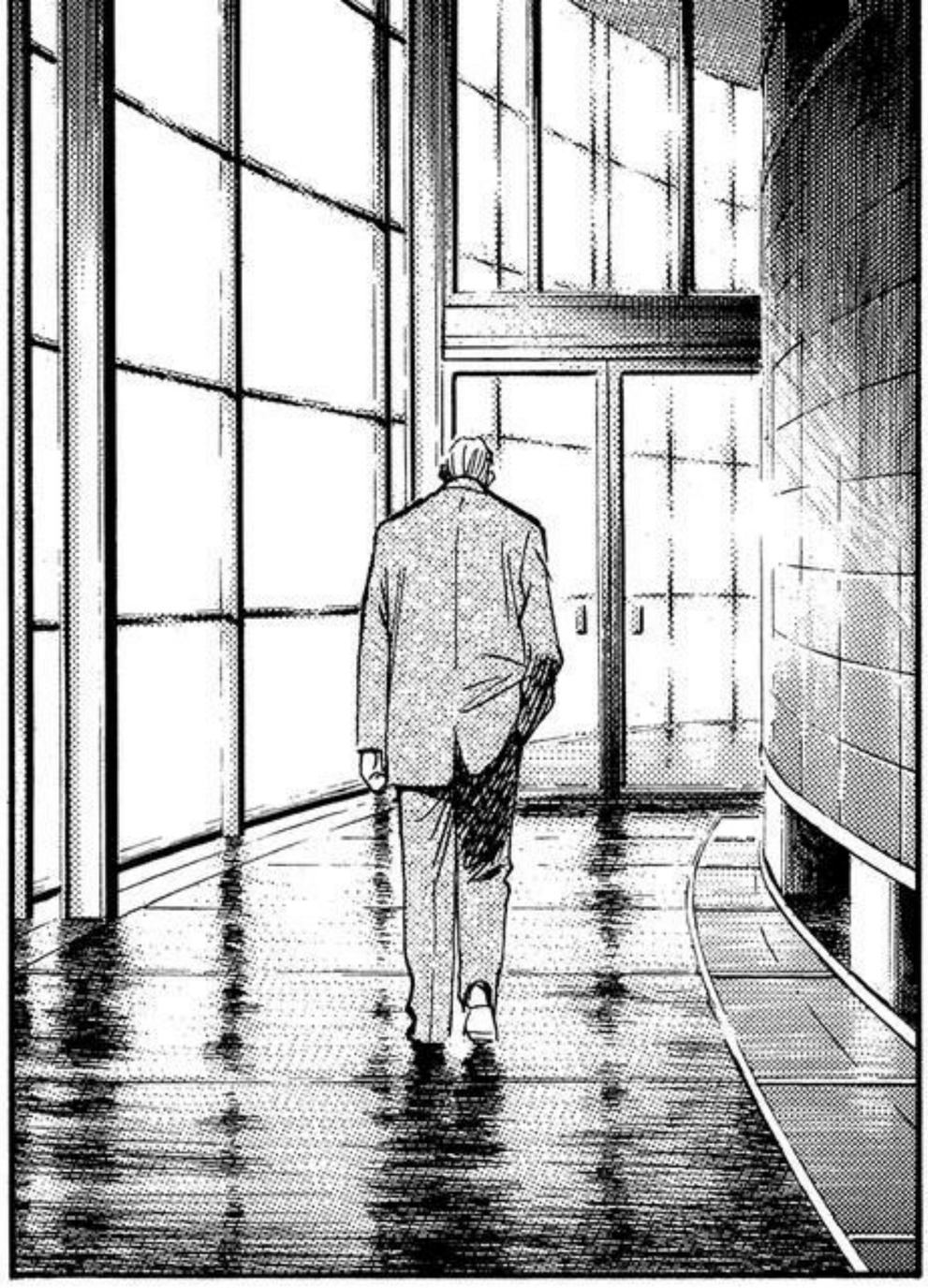


B-BUT SIR ...!!

KLAK

UNDER-STAND?

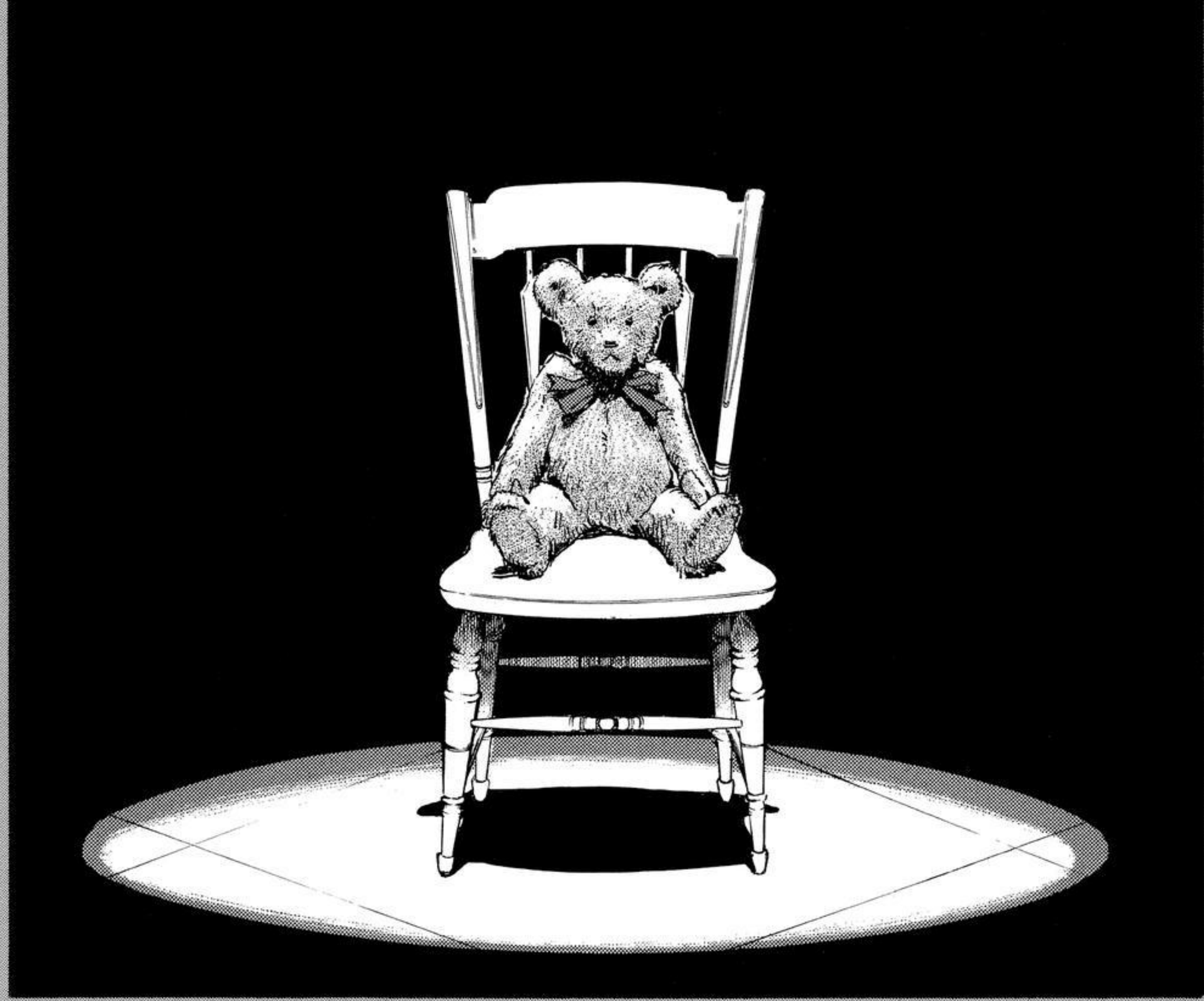
KLAK

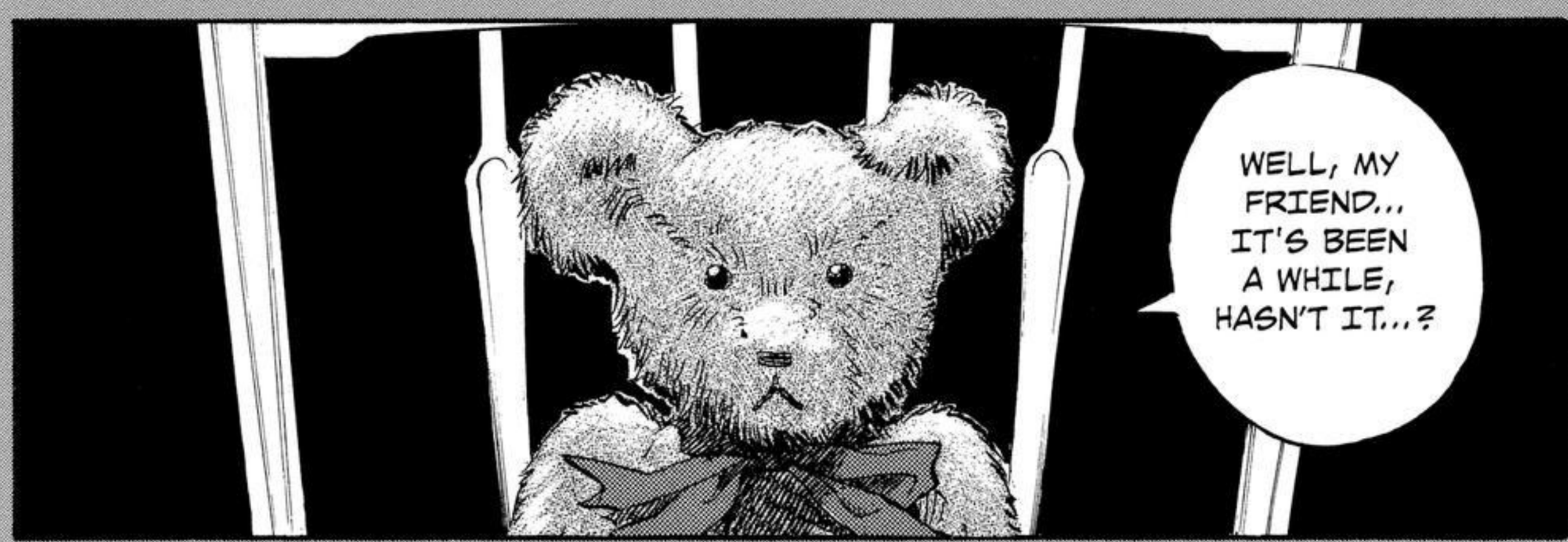


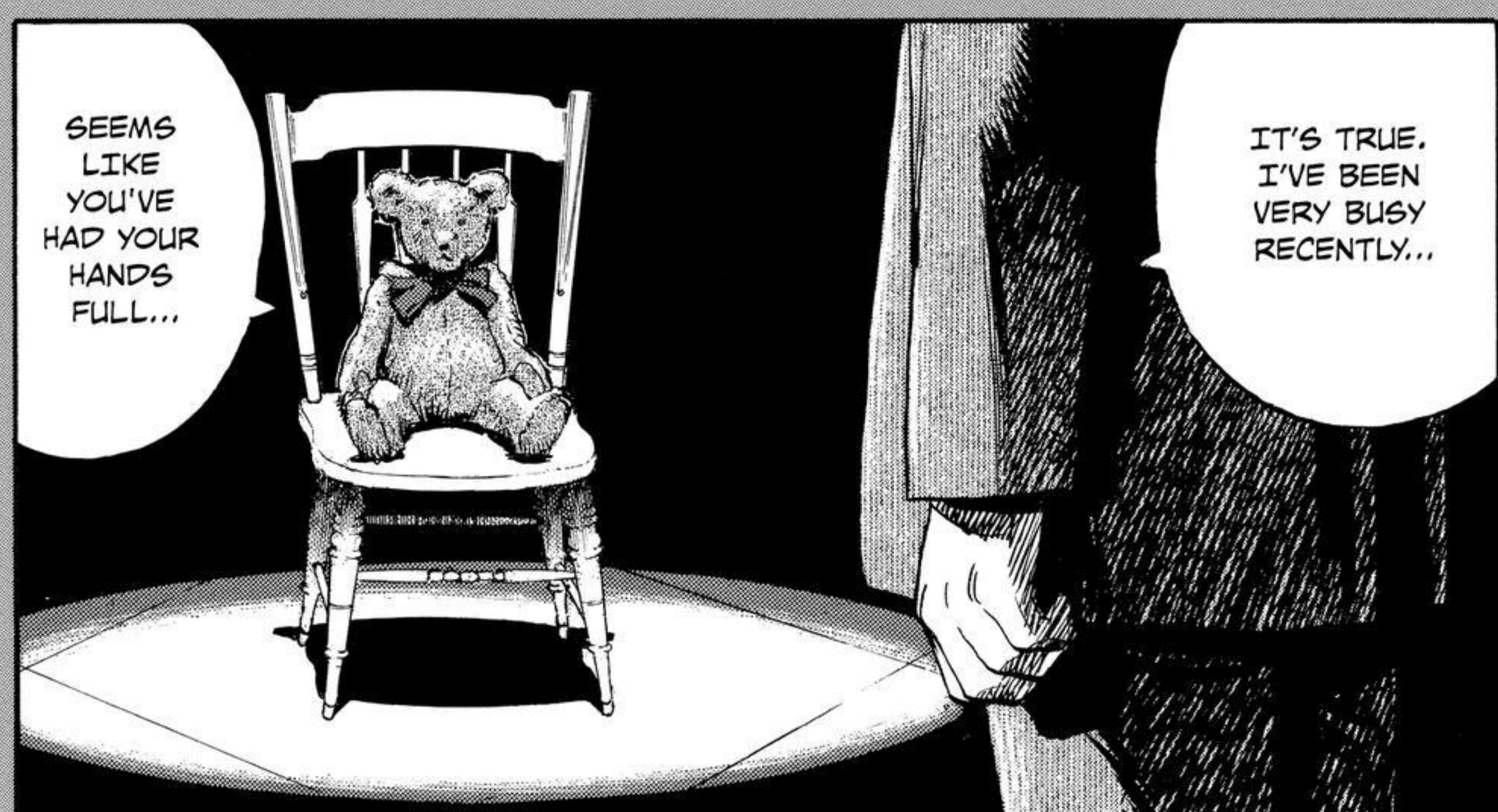
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO GESICHT ?!!

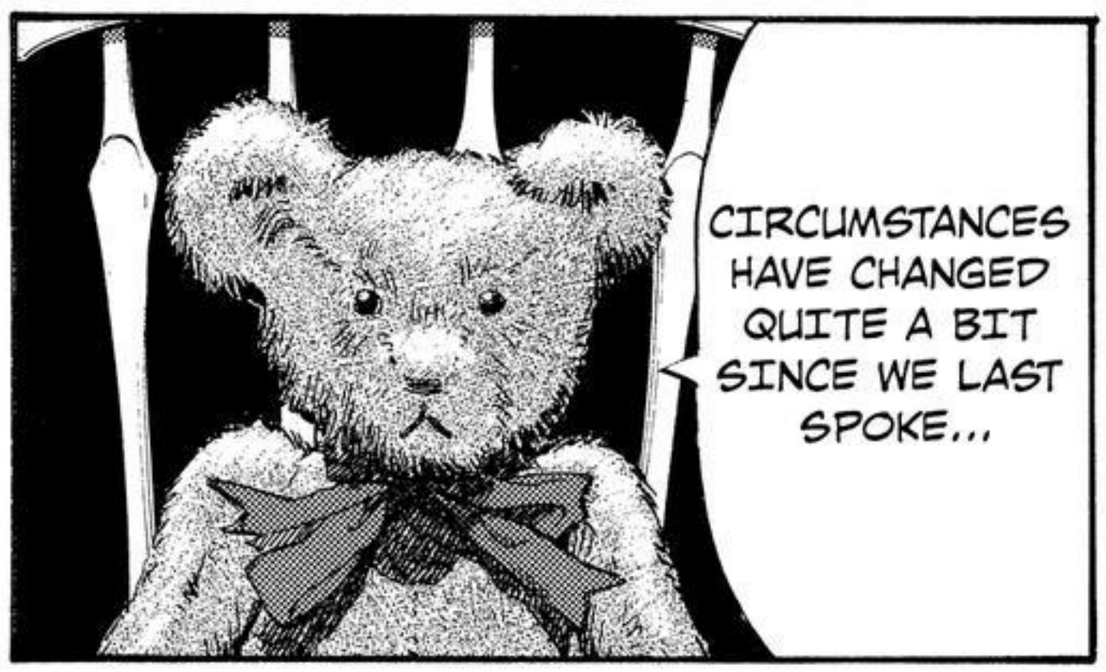
WHAT ARE YOU HIDING?!!

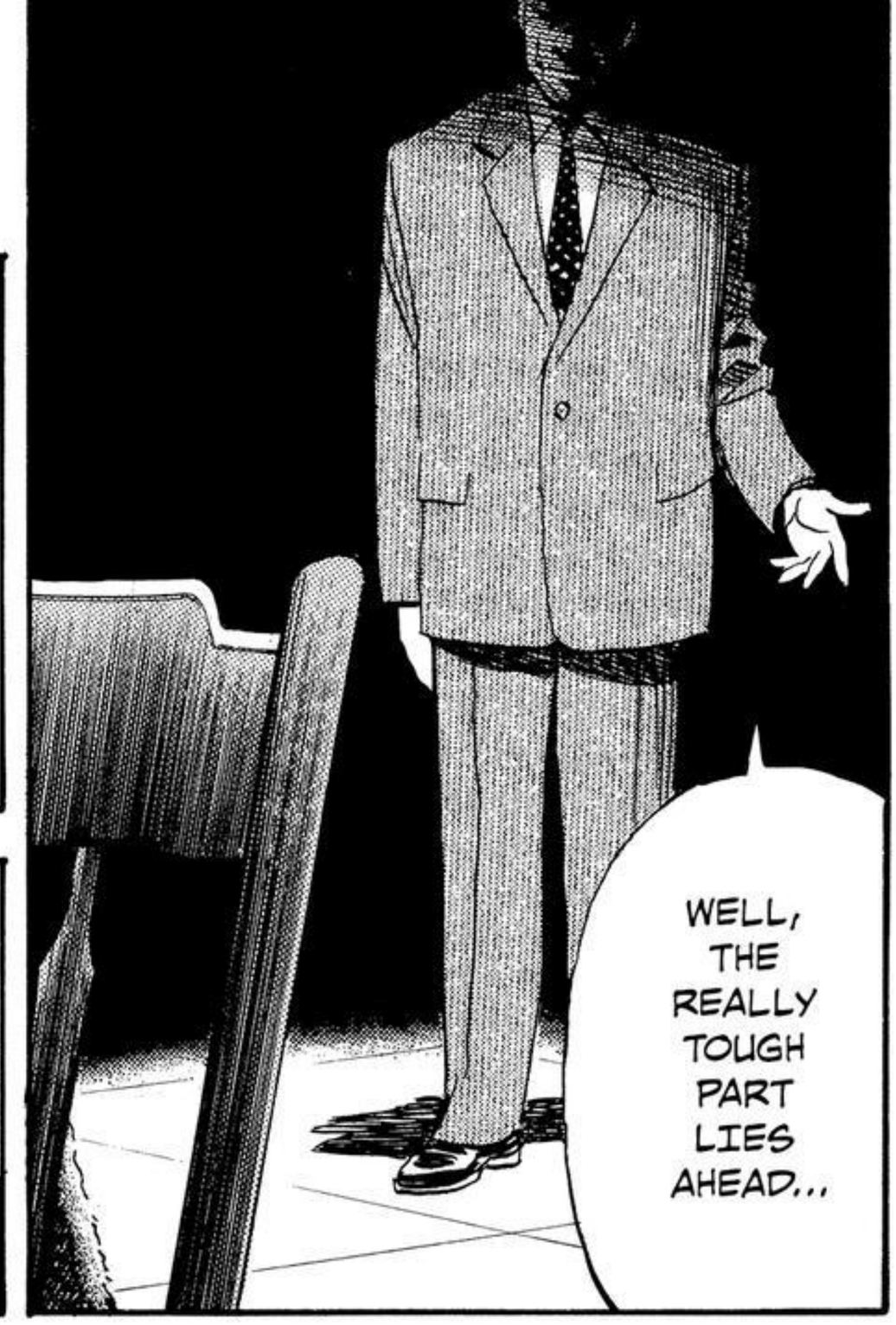
Act 14 DR. ROOSEVELT



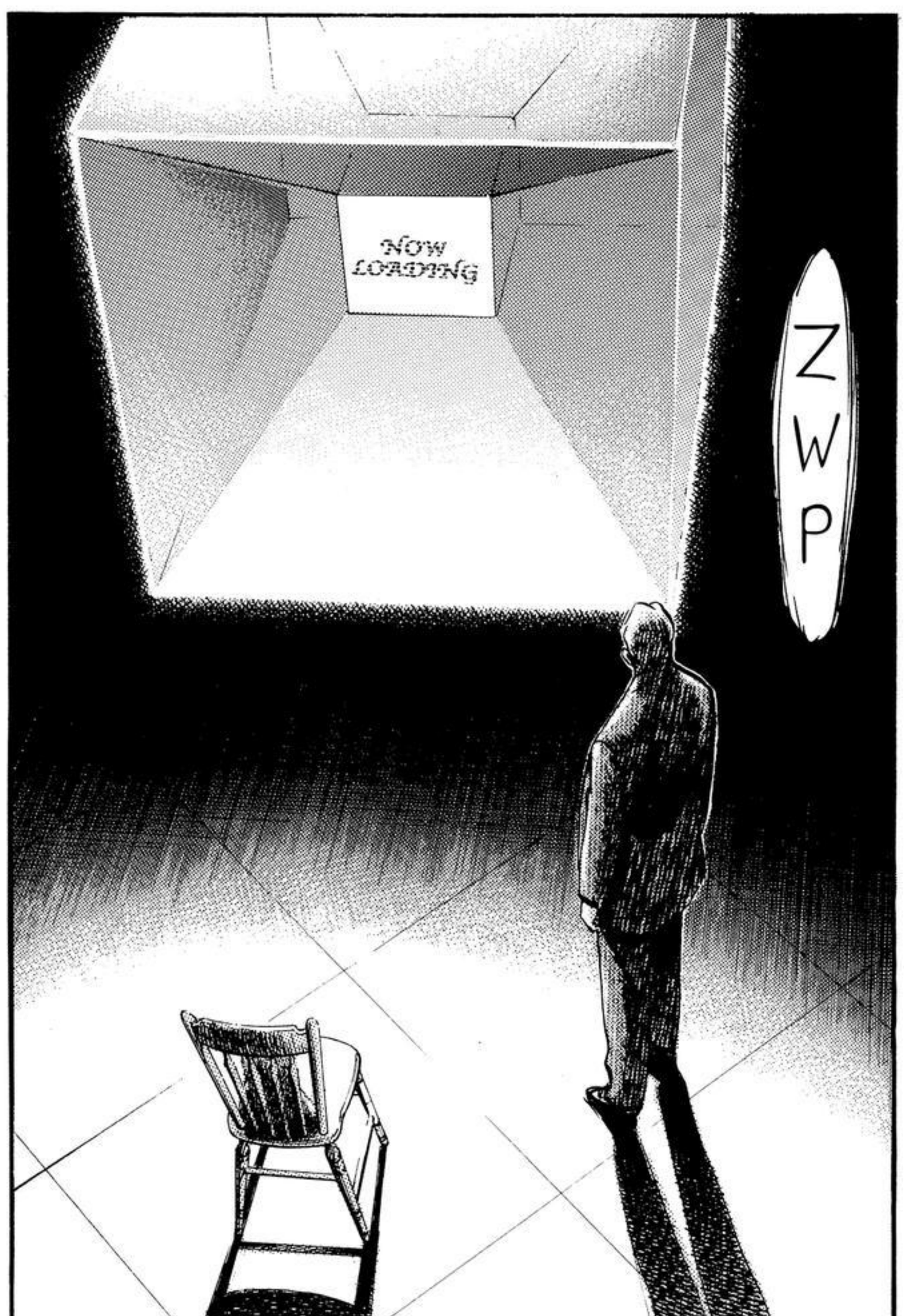


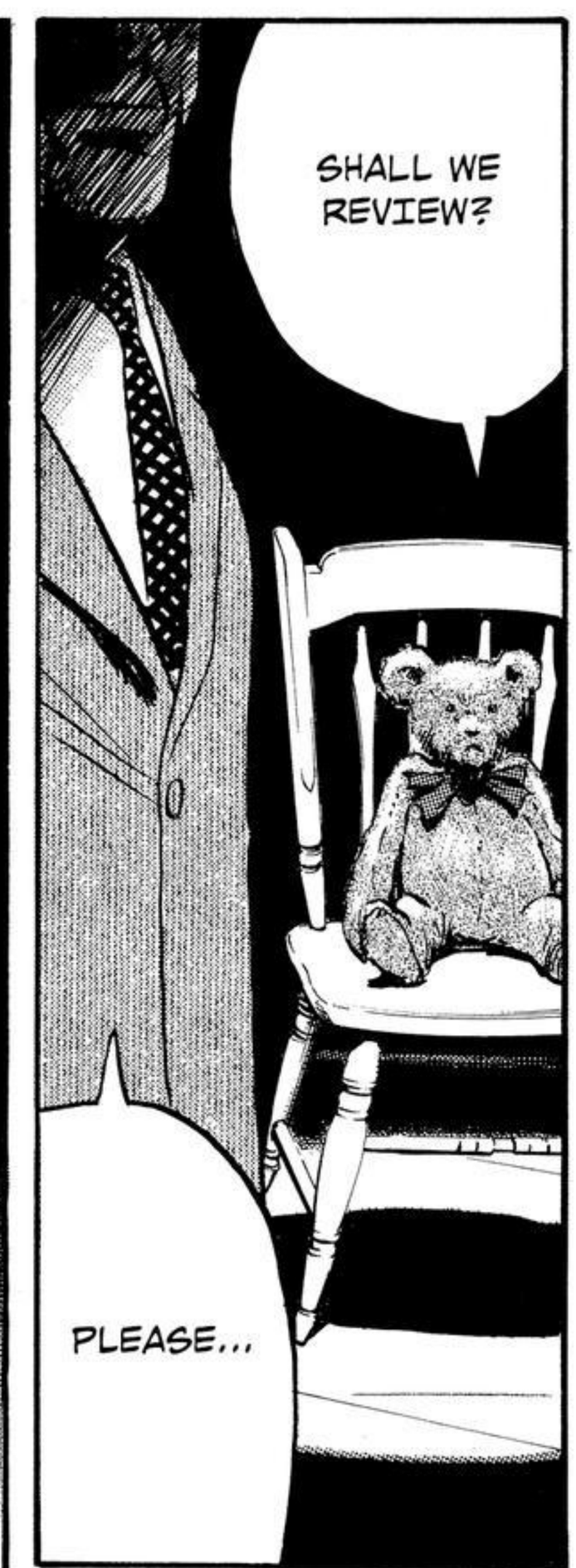


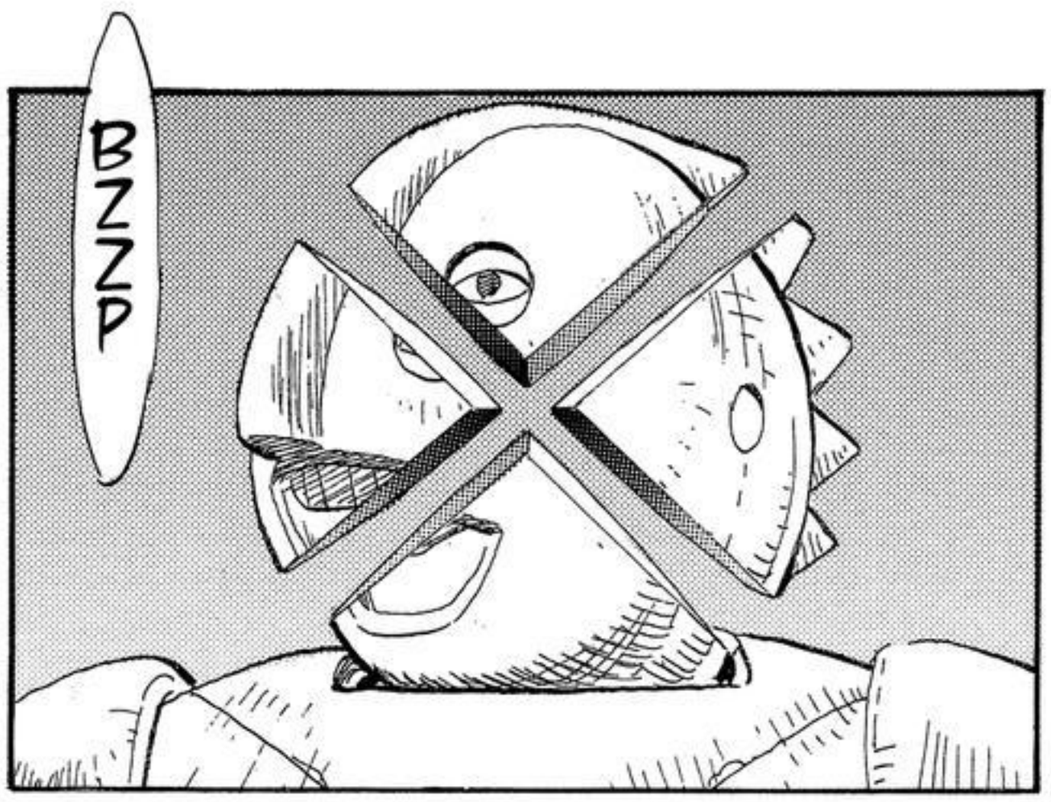

CIRCUMSTANCES HAVE CHANGED QUITE A BIT SINCE WE LAST SPOKE...

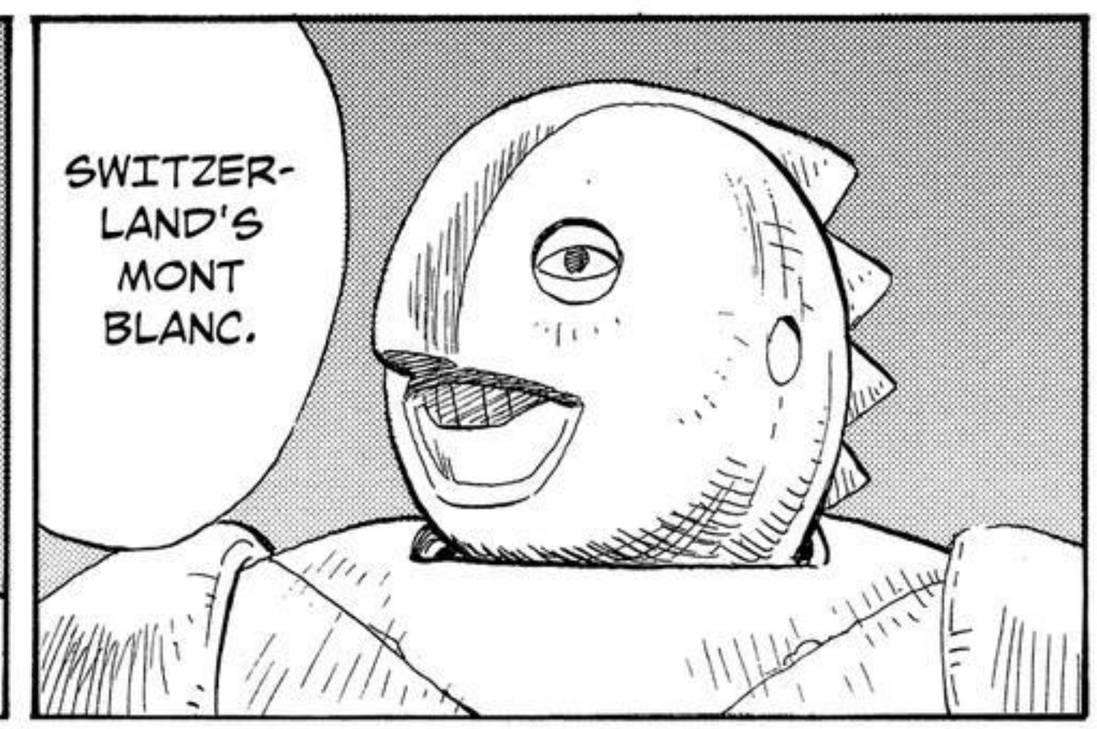

WELL, THE REALLY TOUGH PART LIES AHEAD...

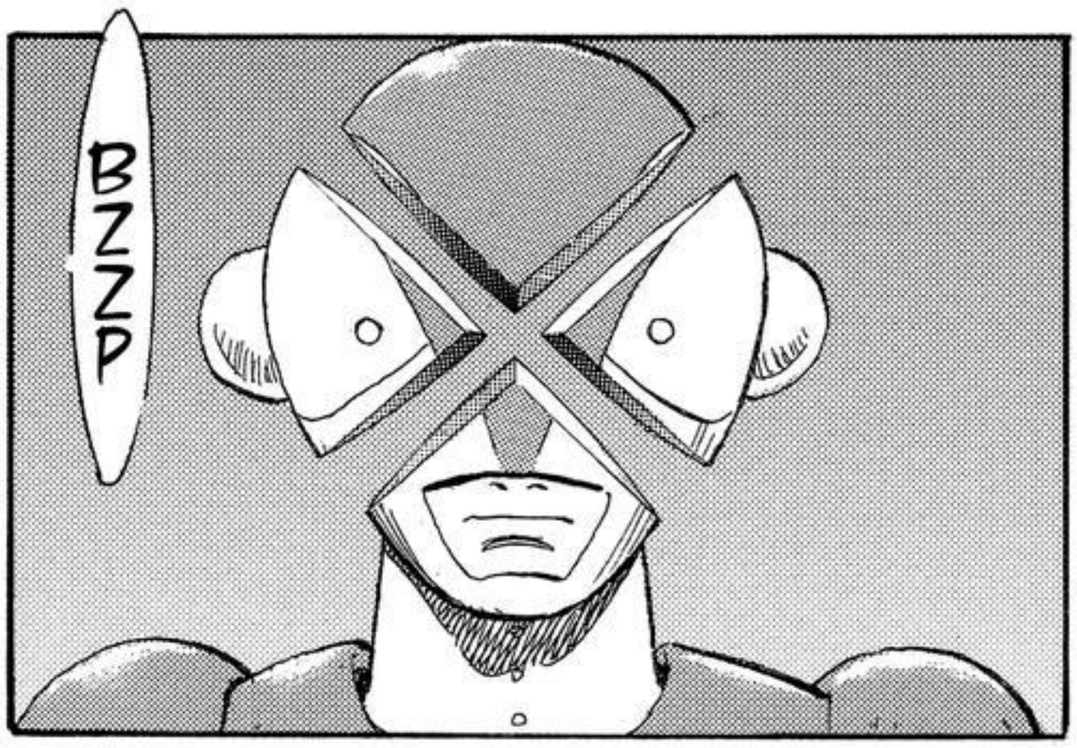
IT APPEARS SO, DOESN'T IT...

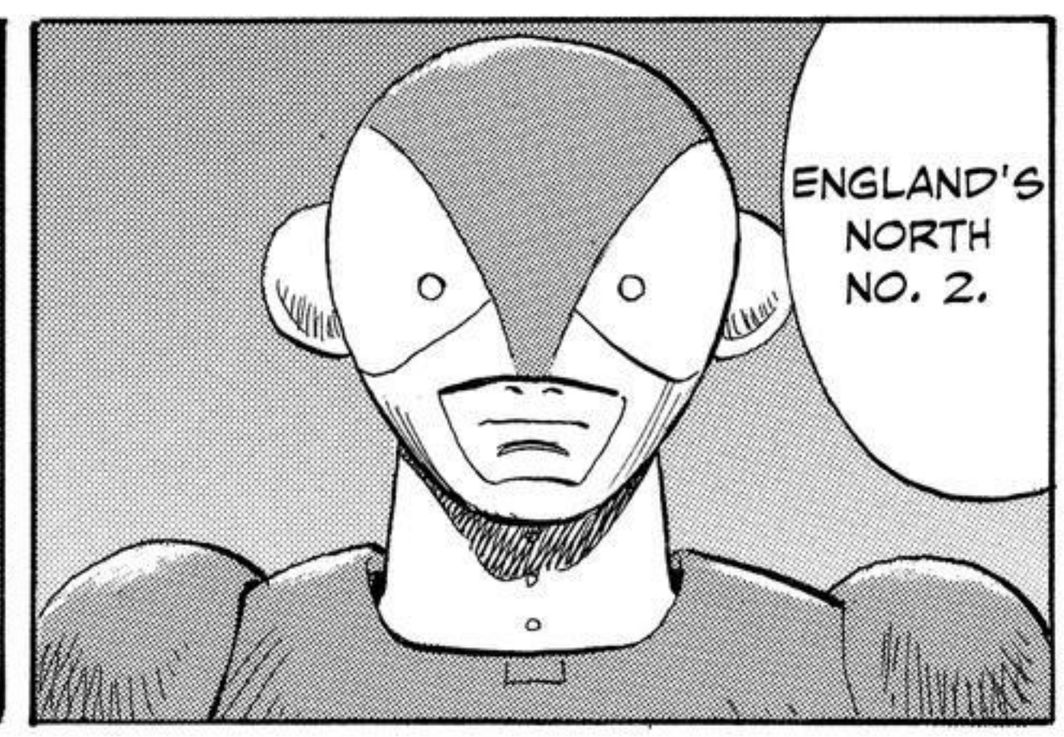

NOW LOADING
ZWP

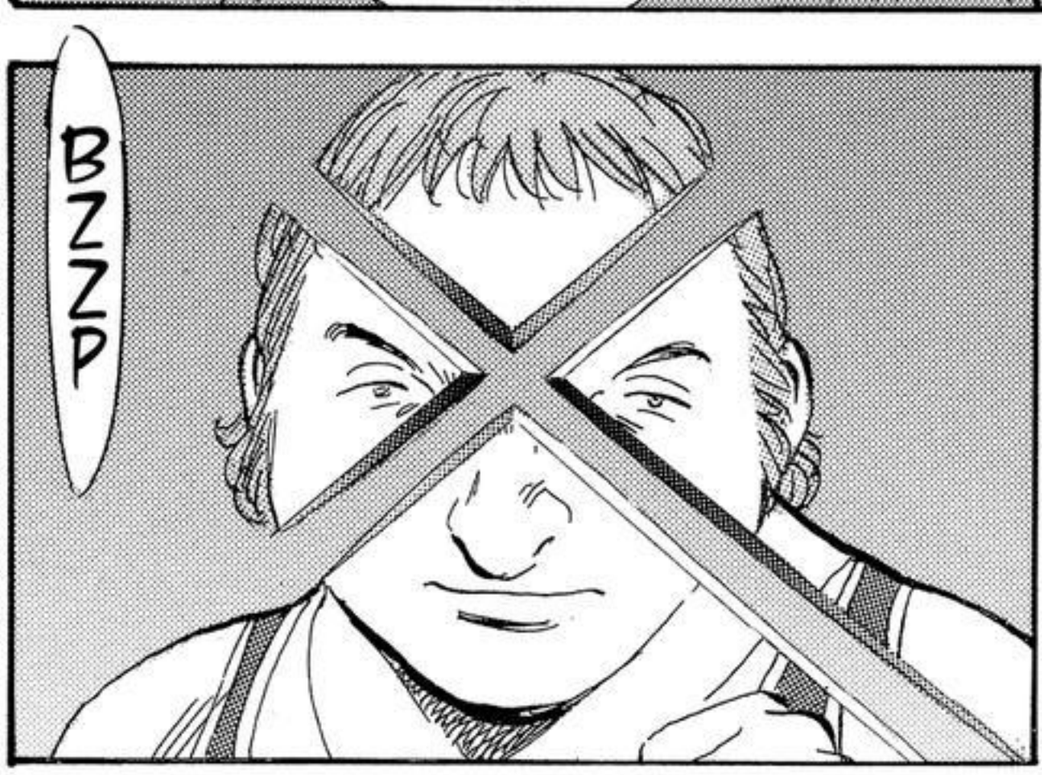

SHALL WE REVIEW?
PLEASE...


BZZP

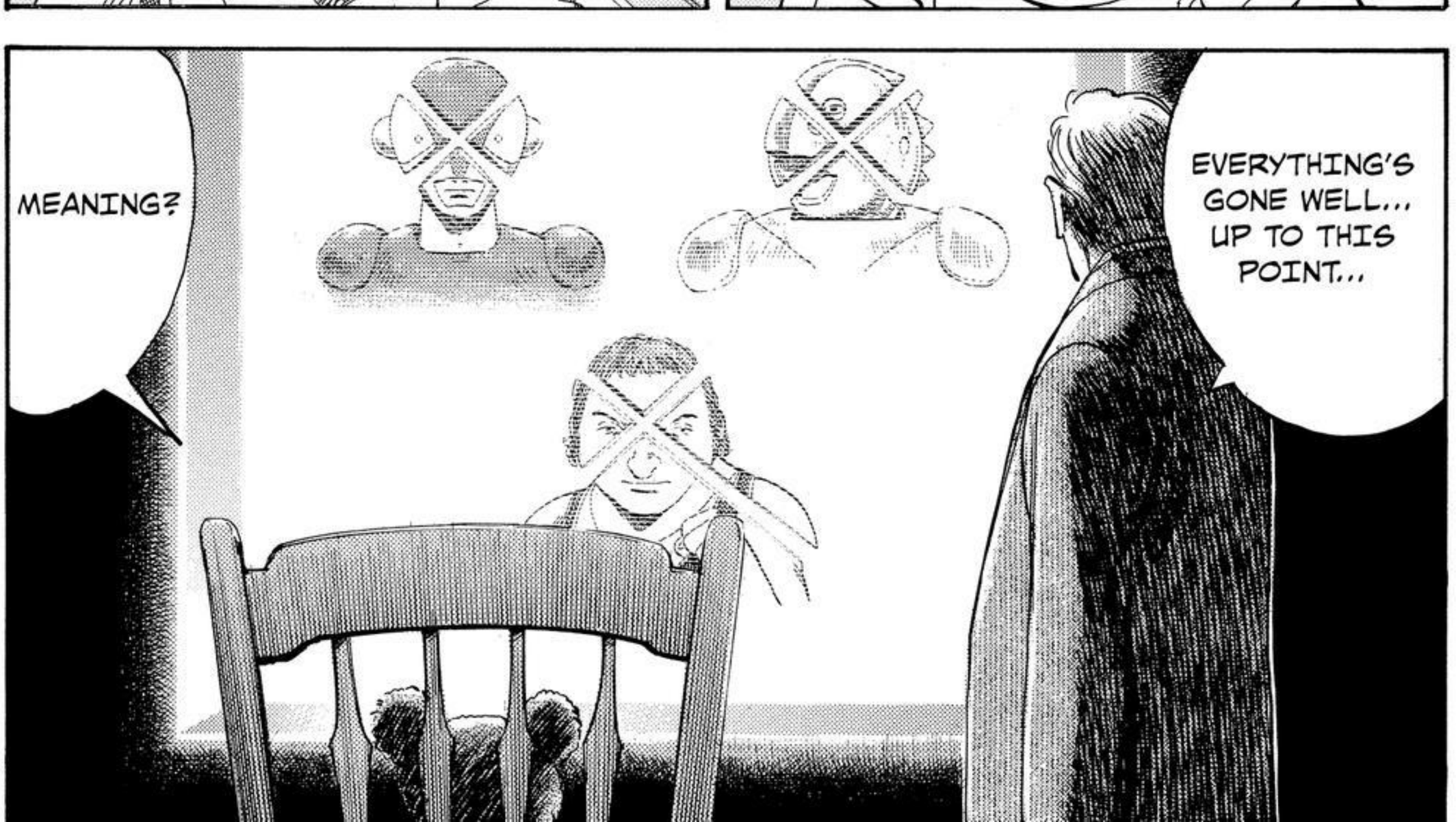

SWITZER-
LAND'S
MONT
BLANC.


BZZP

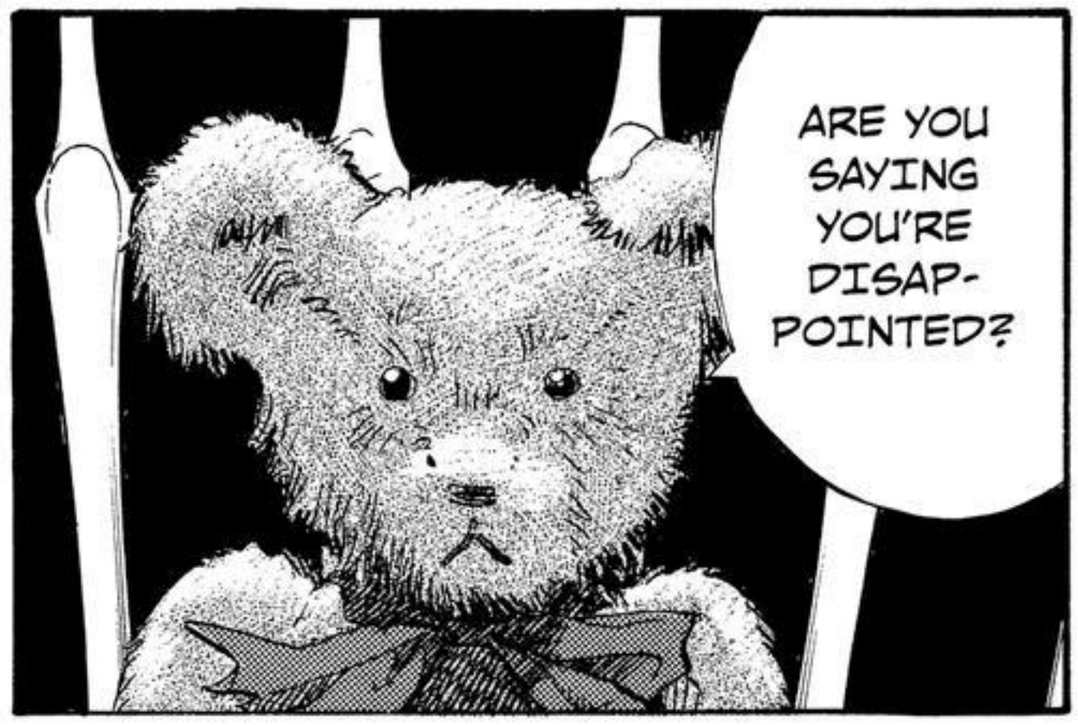

ENGLAND'S
NORTH
NO. 2.

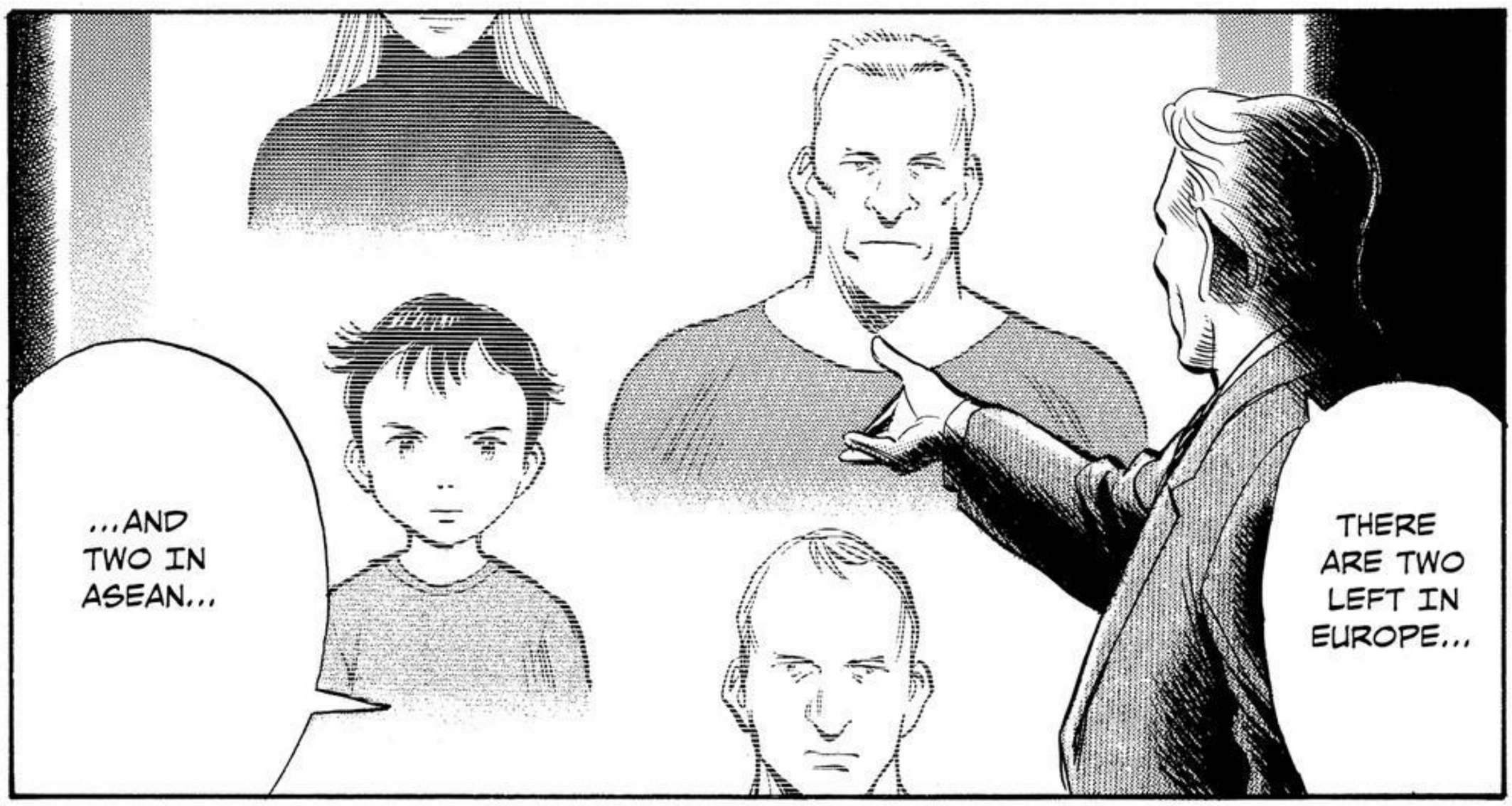

BZZP

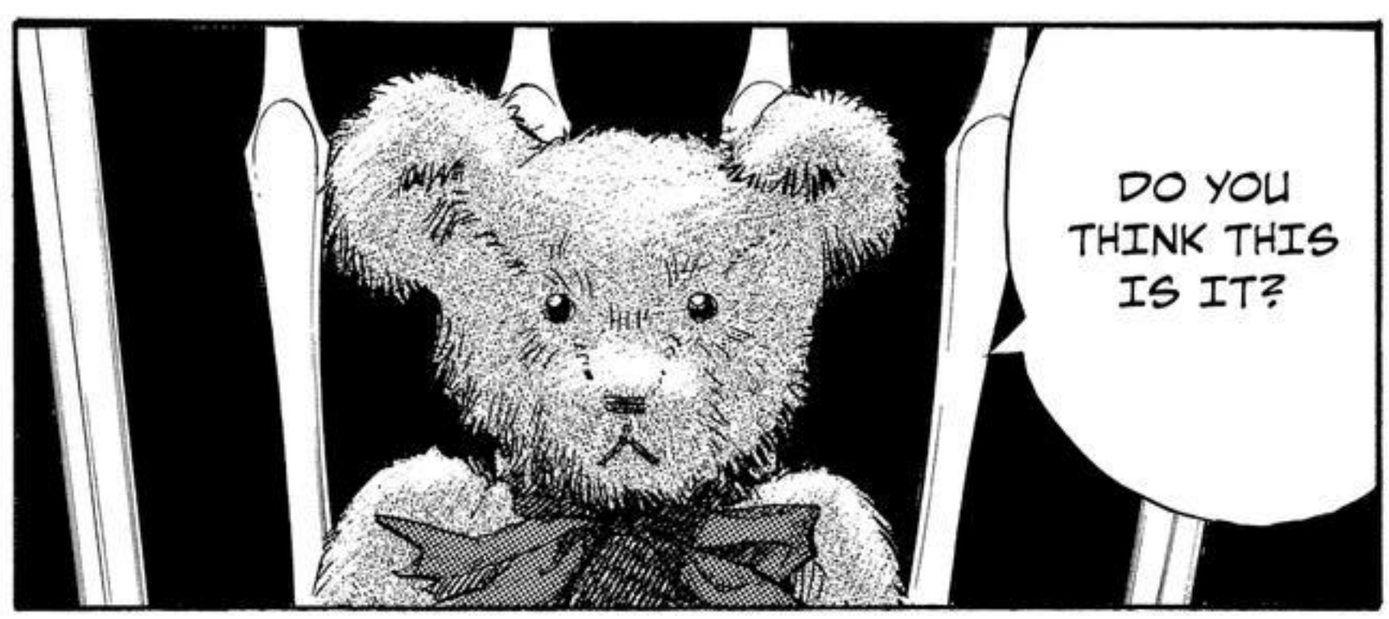
BRANDO
OF TURKEY.


MEANING?
EVERYTHING'S
GONE WELL...
UP TO THIS
POINT...

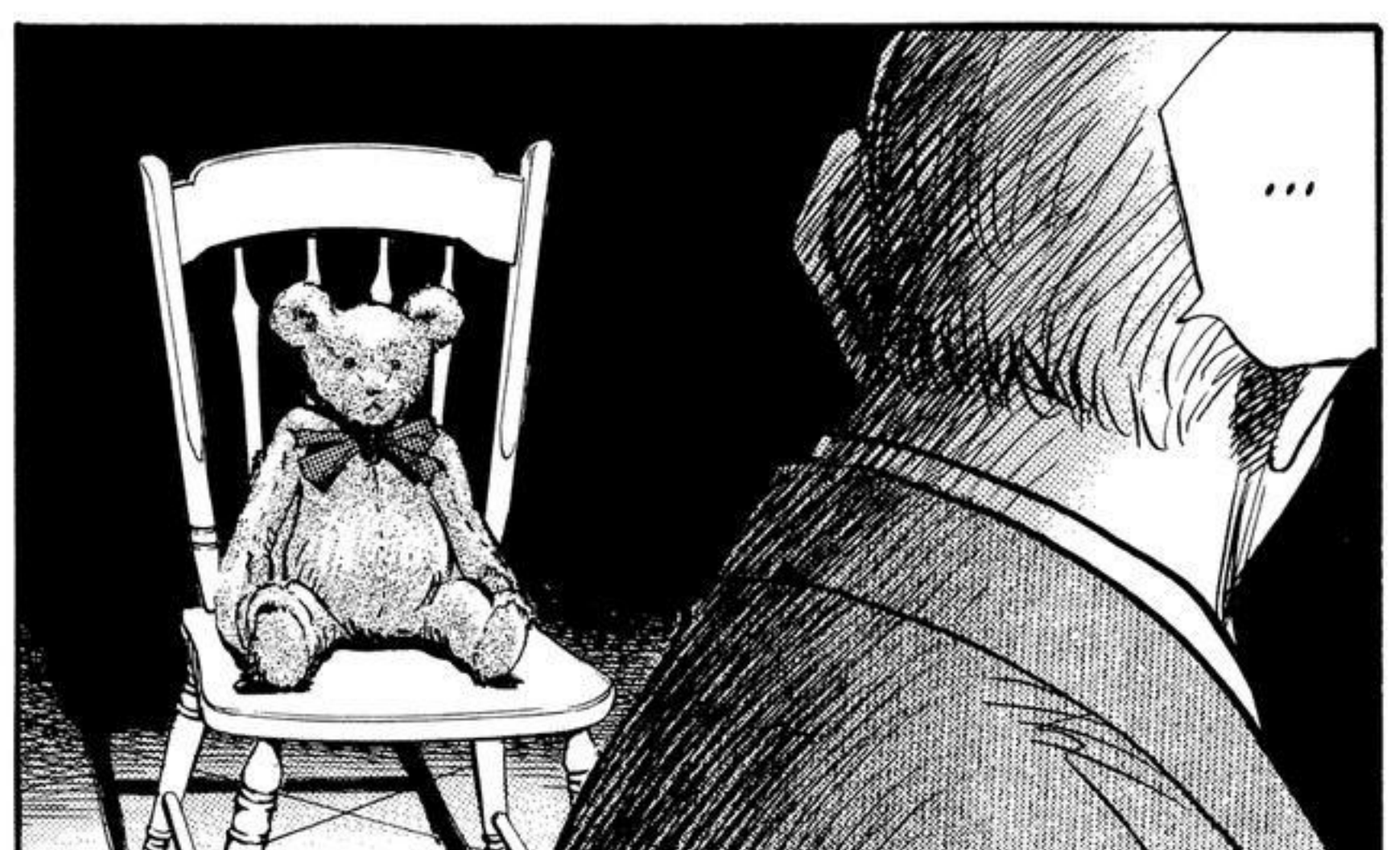
KLAK
WELL, JUST TAKE A LOOK...


ARE YOU SAYING YOU'RE DISAP-POINTED?

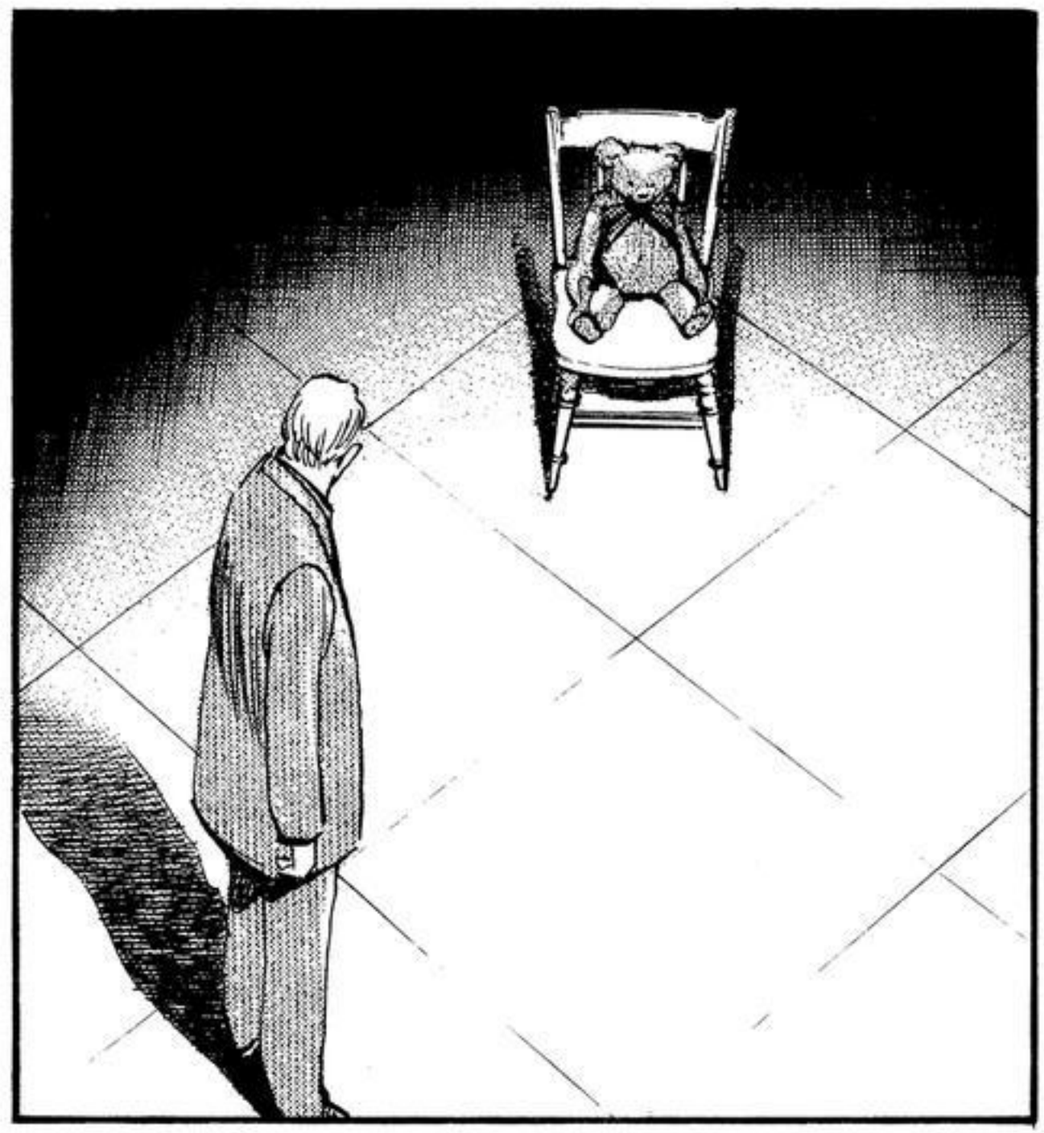

...AND TWO IN ASEAN...
THERE ARE TWO LEFT IN EUROPE...

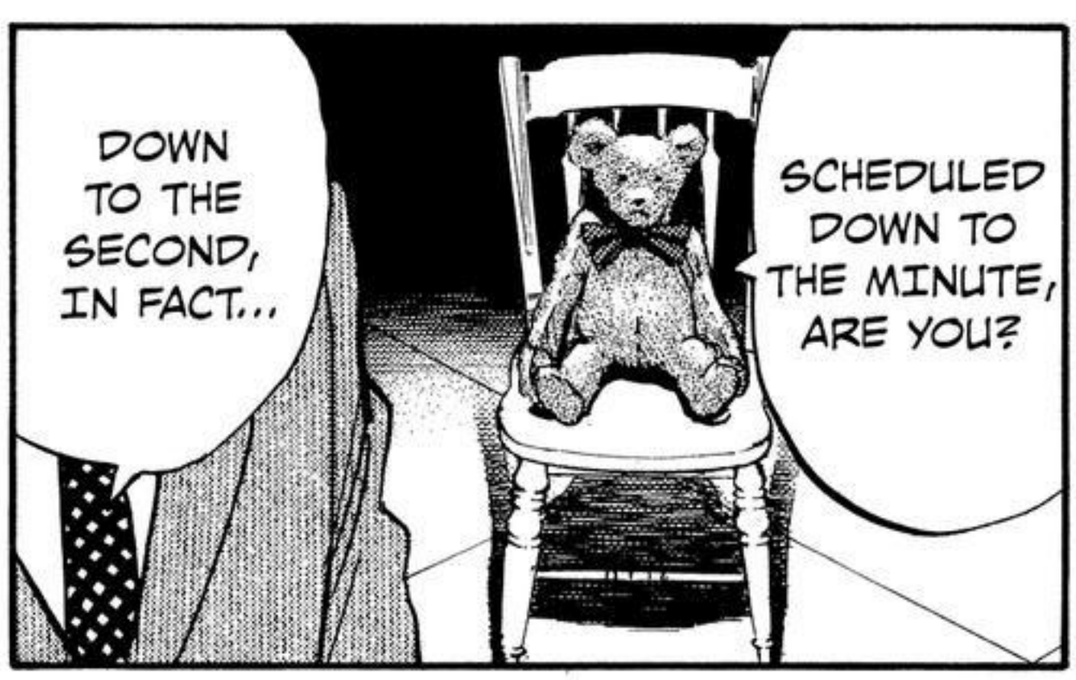

DO YOU THINK THIS IS IT?

THAT MEANS THERE ARE FOUR LEFT...

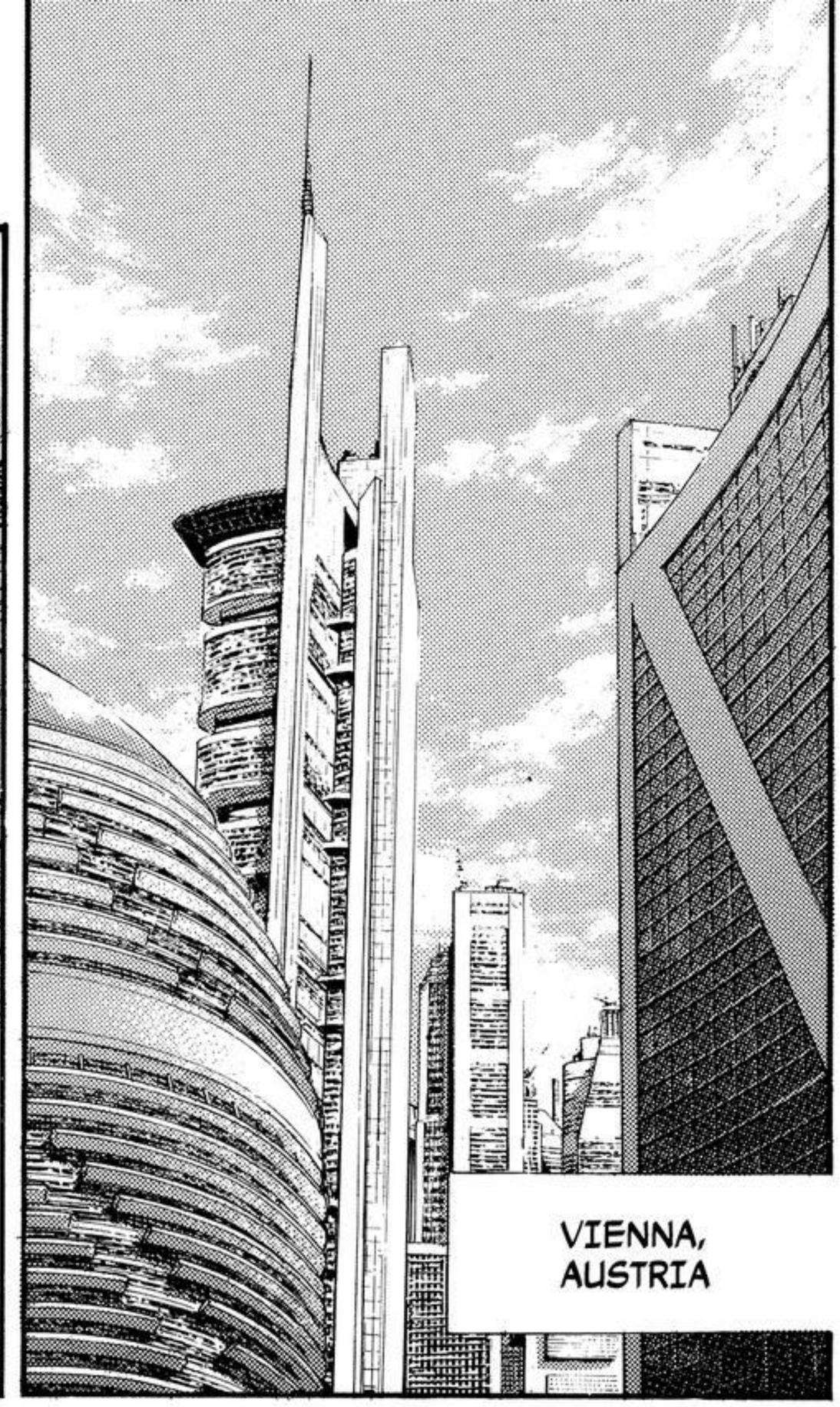

...

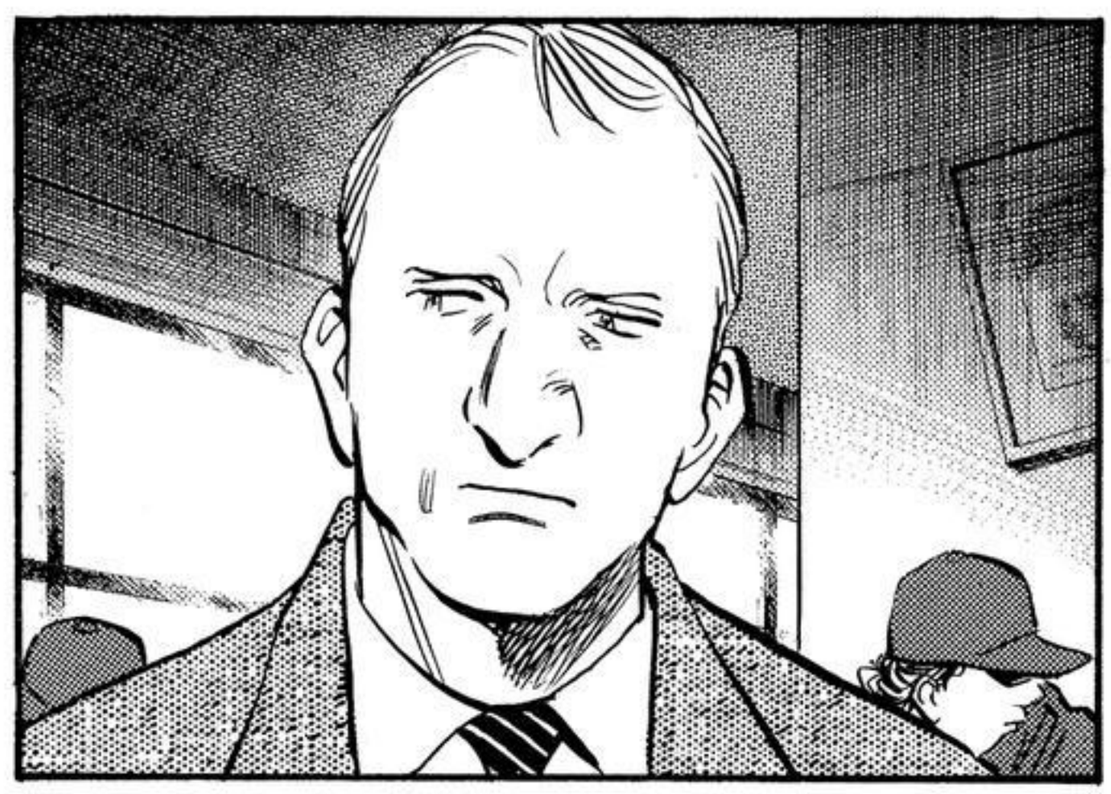
DO YOU REALLY THINK IT'S ALL OVER?





VREEN
VREEN
VREEN
UNTIL NEXT TIME...
Act 14
DR. ROOSEVELT


VIENNA,
AUSTRIA



ALIZEI
WHAT DO YOU MAKE OF IT, INSPECTOR GESICHT?

I MEAN, LOOK AT THOSE HORNS...
THINK IT'S THE SAME KILLER AS THE OTHER CASES?

THE PERPETRATOR WORE HYBRID SNEAKERS AND TRIED TO ERASE HIS FOOTPRINTS...

THIS IS A *COPYCAT KILLING...*

HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT?

BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY... TAKE A LOOK AT THOSE DESK DRAWERS...

AMAZING !!

HE WEIGHS 78 KILOS AND IS 175 CENTIMETERS TALL...

HE LEFT TRACES OF HIMSELF EVERY-WHERE...

YOU'LL FIND SOME GOOD FINGERPRINTS THERE...

FORENSICS !!

WHOEVER DID THIS HAD A HARD TIME WITH THE KNOBS, SO HE TEMPORARILY REMOVED HIS GLOVES...

PERFECT?

MOST LIKELY...
SO IT'S A ROBBERY, HUH.... MADE TO LOOK LIKE ONE OF THE SERIAL KILLINGS?

PERFECT, I'D SAY!
YOU'RE AS SHARP AS EVER, INSPECTOR ...

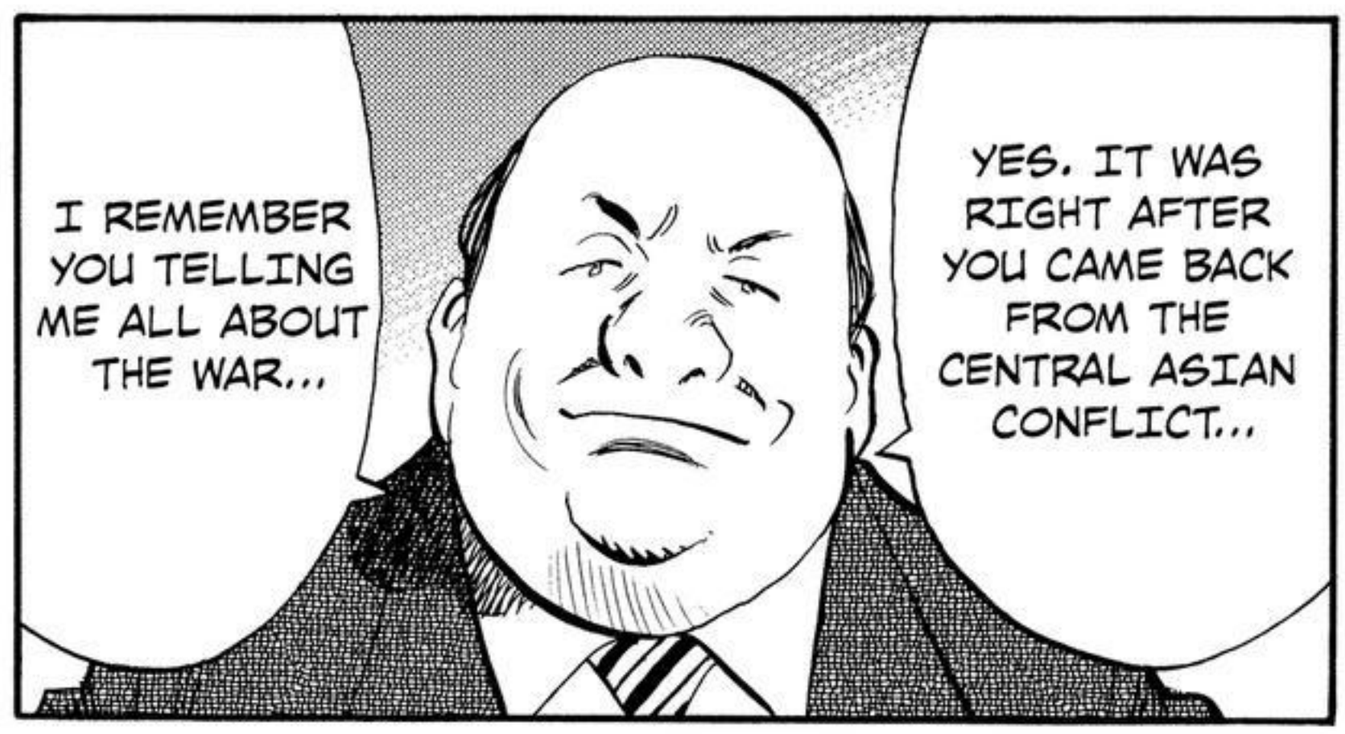
LISTEN, DETECTIVE FERSEN...
YES?

GLAD TO BE OF SERVICE ...
SORRY TO BRING YOU OUT ON YOUR DAY OFF... BUT YOU'VE REALLY HELPED US OUT HERE.

AND YOU DID A BRILLIANT JOB...
IT WAS THREE YEARS AGO... IN SALZBURG. WE ASKED YOUR HELP ON A CASE THEN TOO.

WAIT A SEC... I THOUGHT ROBOT MEMORIES WERE INFALLIBLE!

I KNOW WE'VE MET BEFORE, BUT I'M TRYING TO REMEMBER WHEN IT WAS...

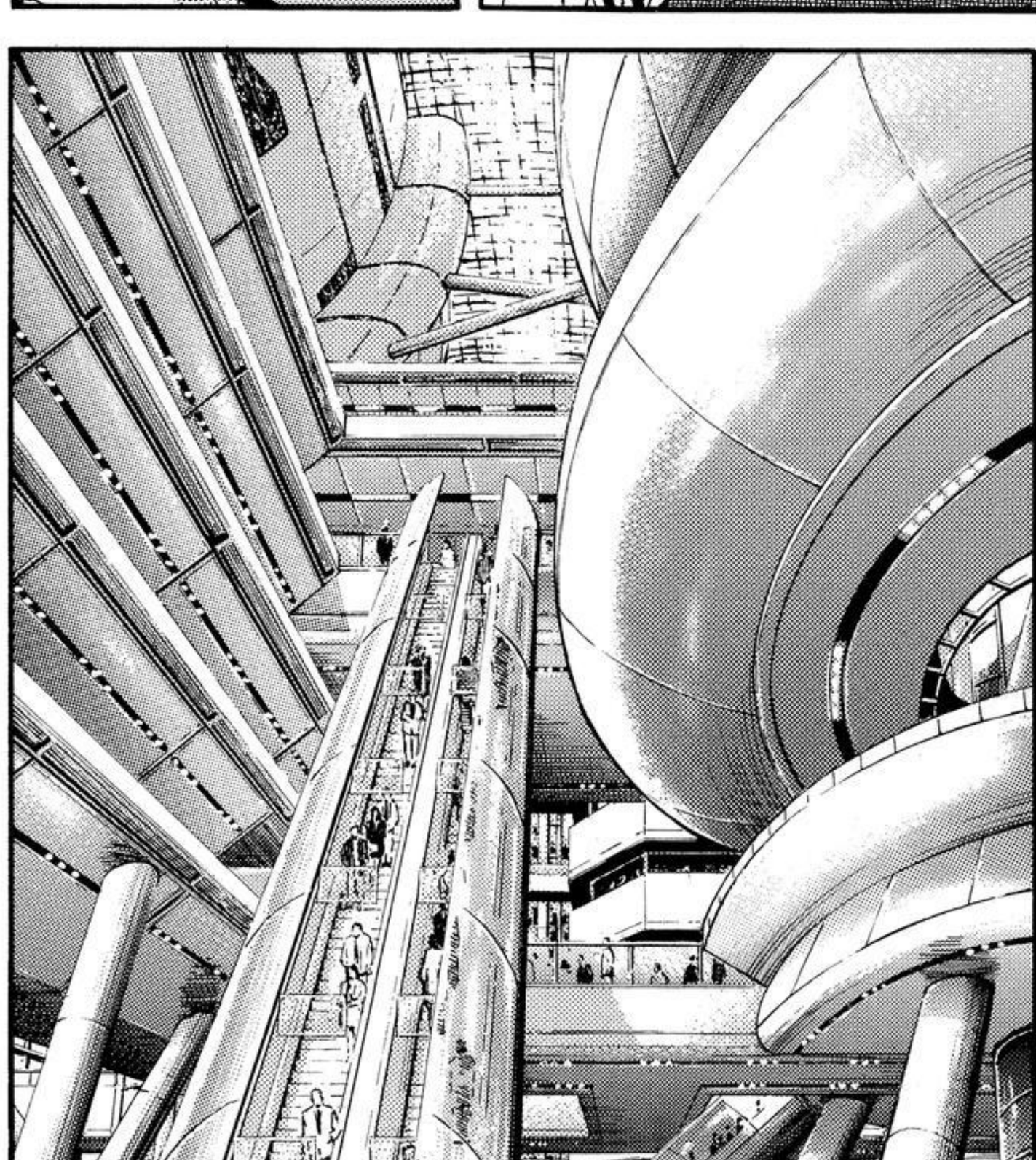

I REMEMBER YOU TELLING ME ALL ABOUT THE WAR...
YES. IT WAS RIGHT AFTER YOU CAME BACK FROM THE CENTRAL ASIAN CONFLICT...

THREE YEARS AGO...

IT WAS GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN, DETECTIVE...

AND YEAH... I'M STILL A SUCKER FOR A GOOD BEER. HEH HEH...
SEE? YOU DO REMEMBER, AFTER ALL.

THAT'S RIGHT... I REMEM-BER...
YOU DOWNED OVER SEVEN BOTTLES OF BEER AT THE BAR ON KARL STRASSE...



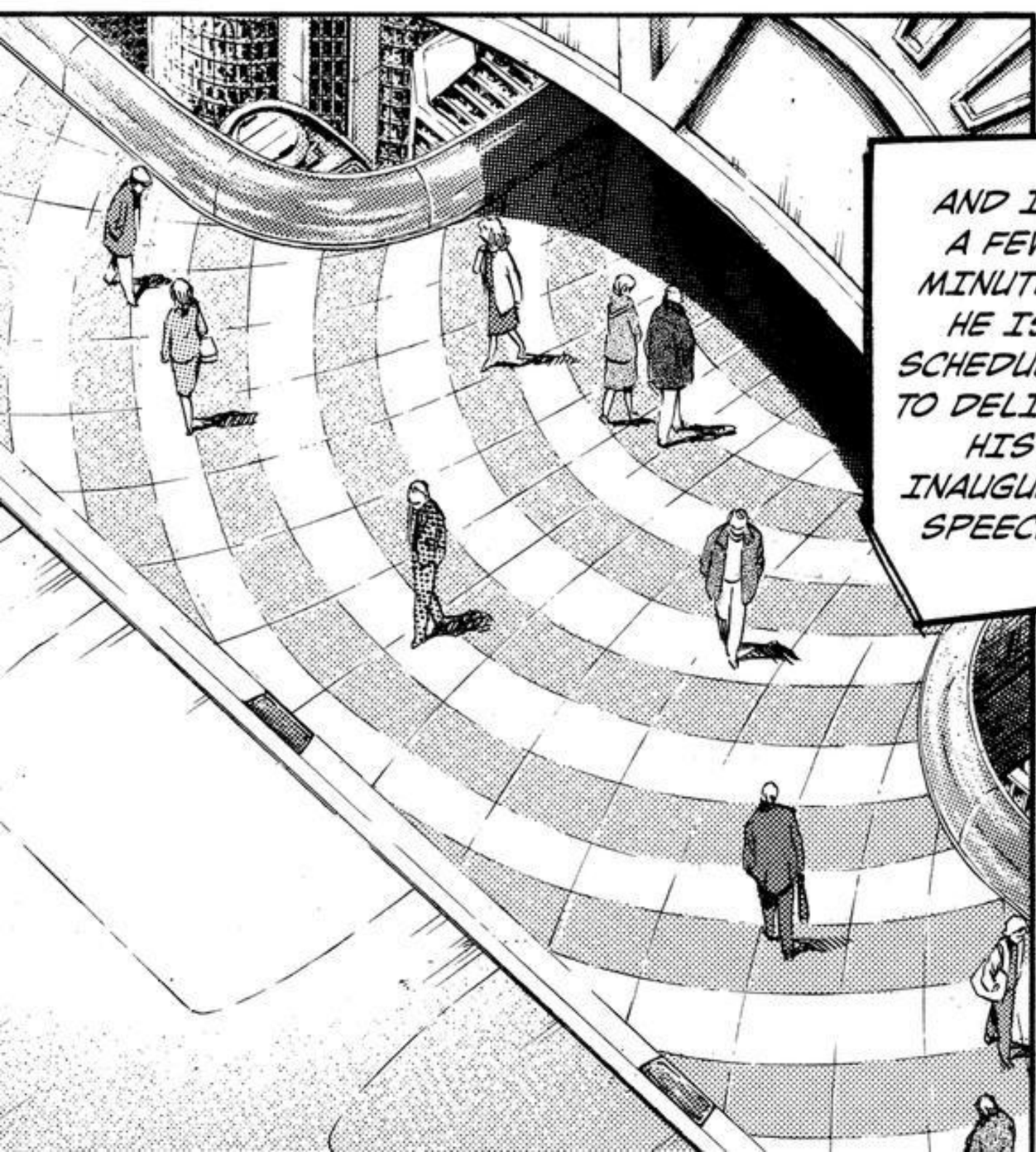
HEY, THE PLEASURE'S MINE. LET'S GET TOGETHER SOON.

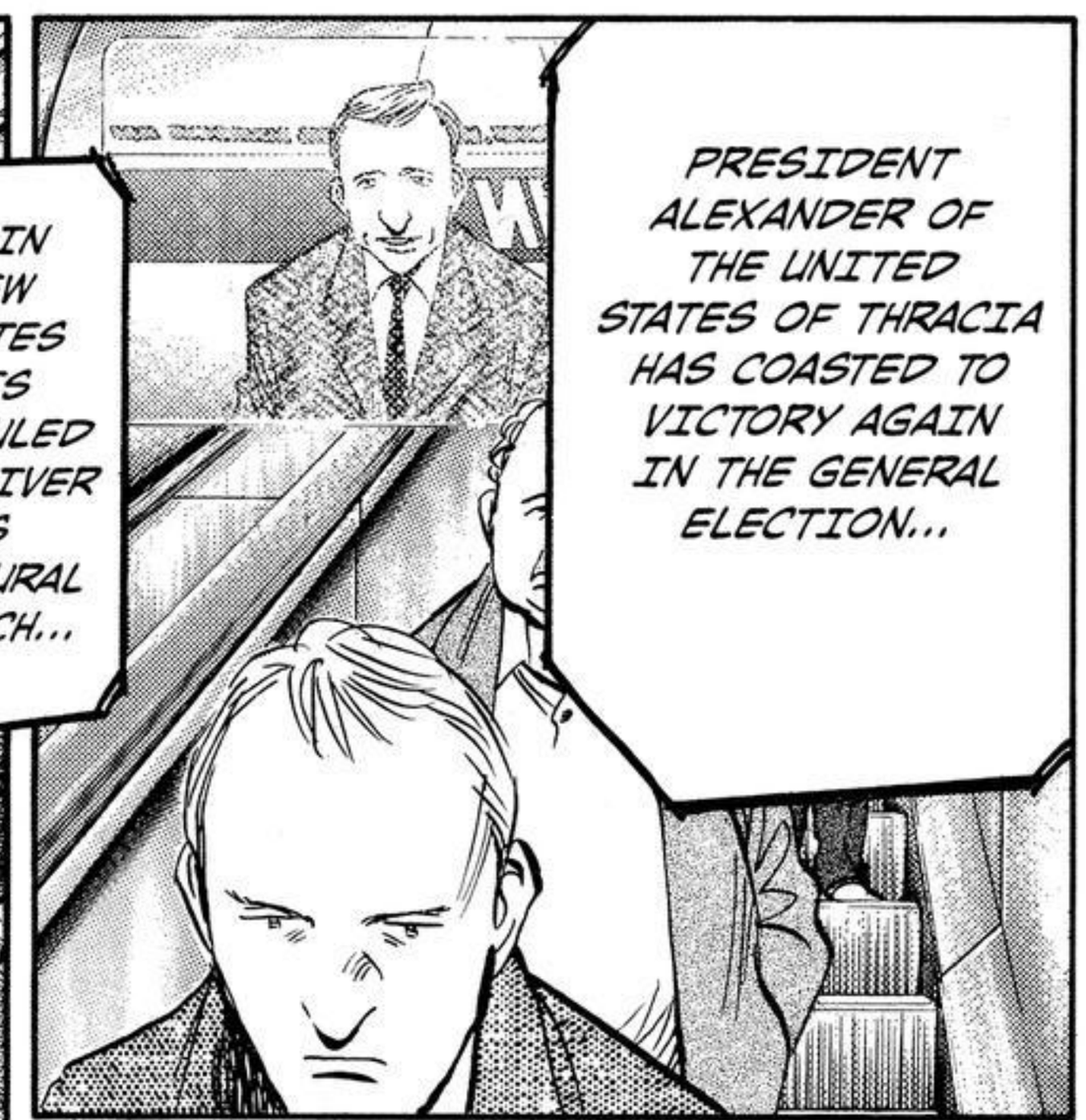
BUT WHAT HAPPENED TO MY MEMORY OF THREE YEARS AGO...?

PERFECT ...

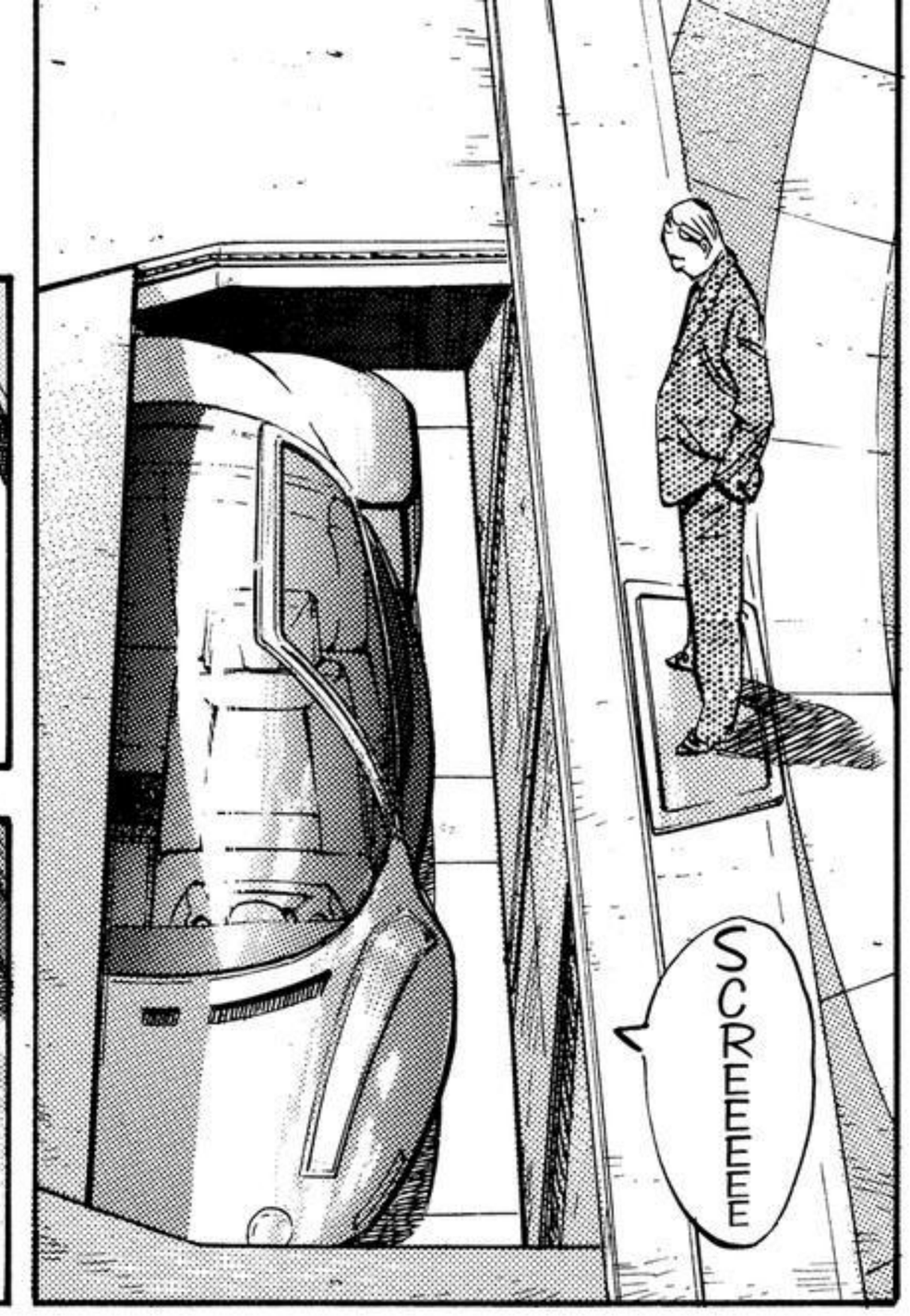
DEMOCRACY HAS BEEN RESTORED TO PERSIA...
...AND THE COUNTRY IS GRADUALLY RETURNING TO NORMAL...

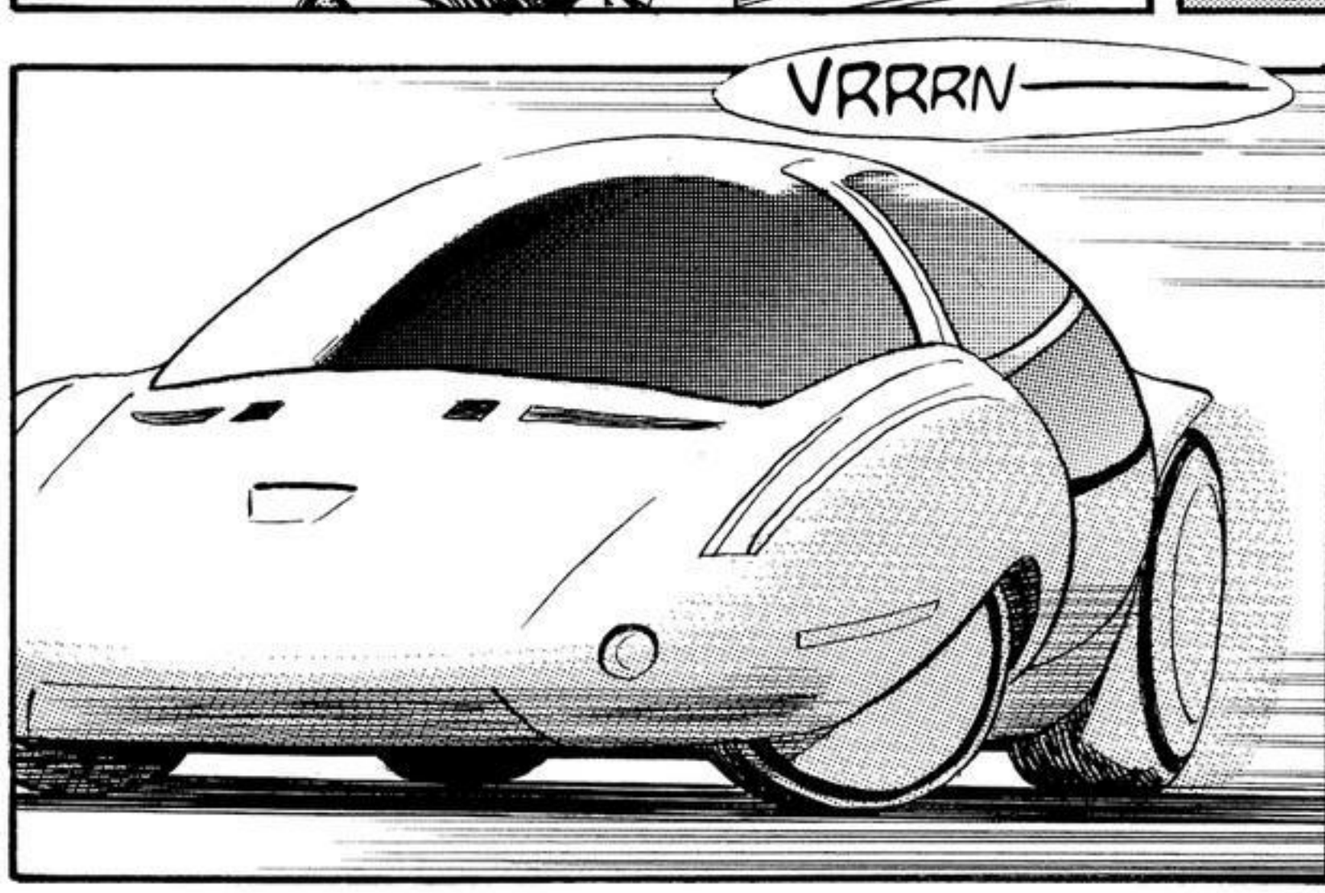
WNN
IT'S ALREADY BEEN FOUR YEARS SINCE THE CONCLUSION OF THE 39TH CENTRAL ASIAN WAR...


AND IN A FEW MINUTES HE IS SCHEDULED TO DELIVER HIS INAUGURAL SPEECH...

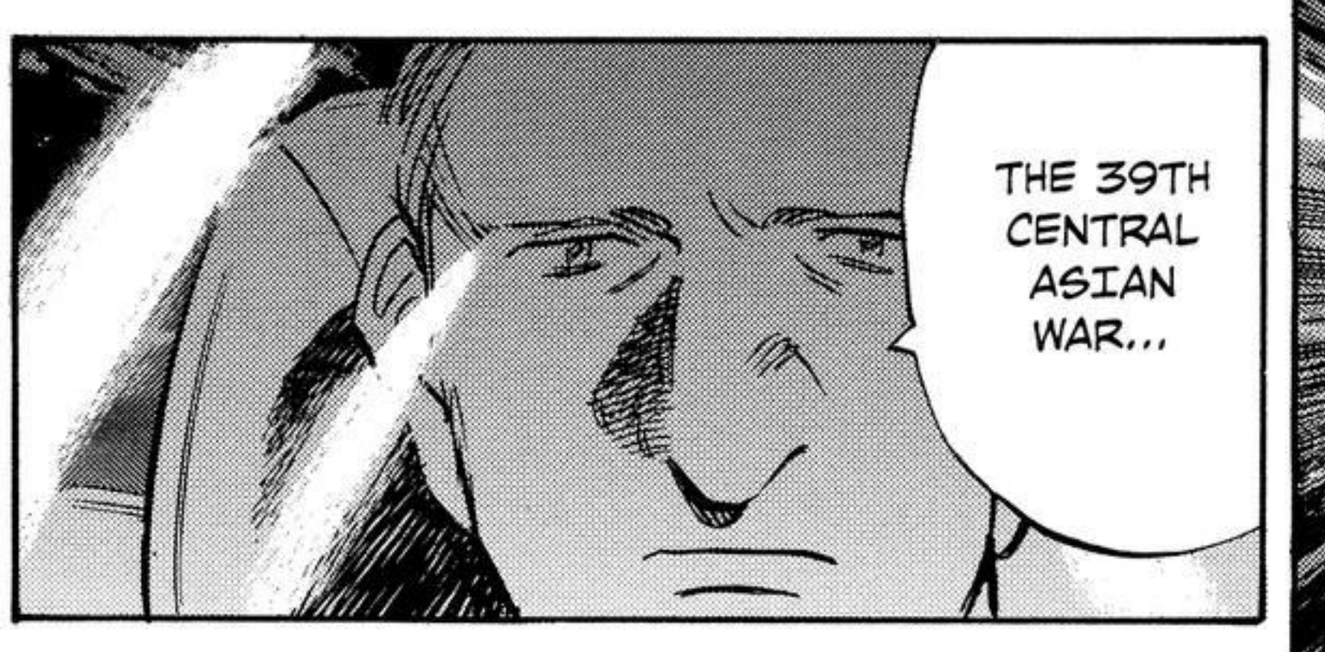

PRESIDENT ALEXANDER OF THE UNITED STATES OF THRACIA HAS COASTED TO VICTORY AGAIN IN THE GENERAL ELECTION...

SHMP
SO DEMOCRACY'S BEEN RESTORED TO PERSIA...


SCREEEEE


VRRRN——

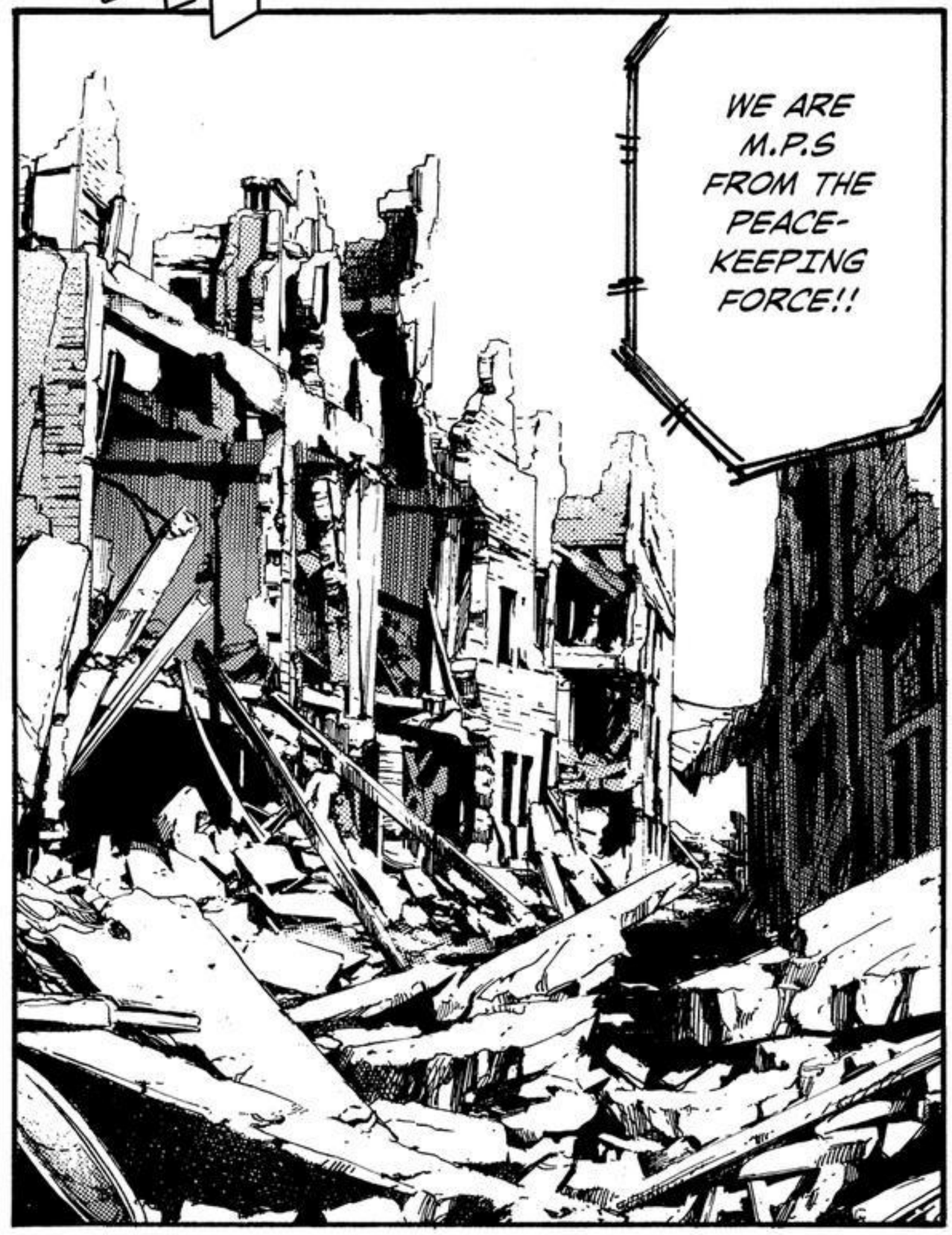
...AND THE COUNTRY'S RETURNING TO NORMAL...


THE 39TH CENTRAL ASIAN WAR...

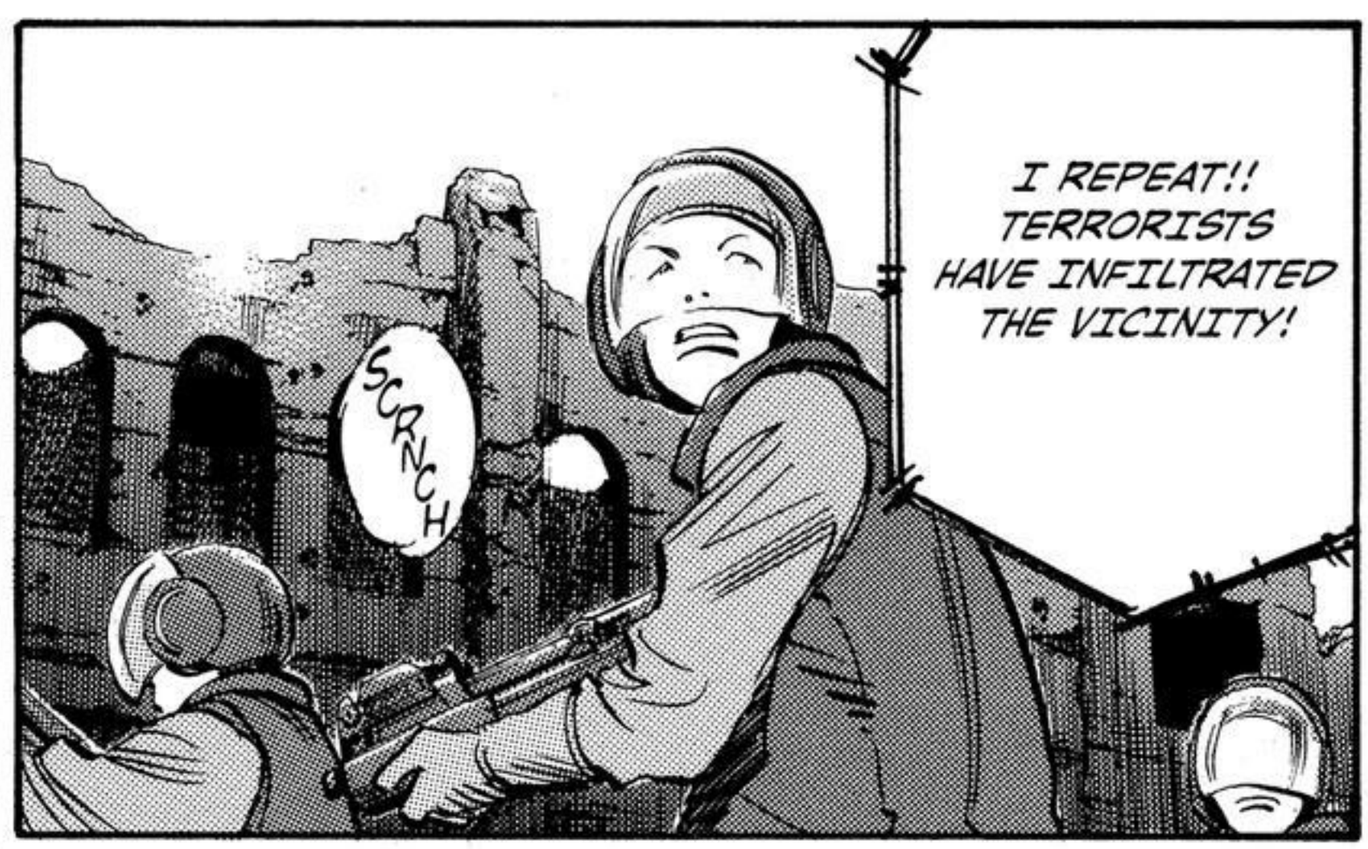
WSSHH

BOOM!

ALL RESIDENTS MUST EVACUATE IMMEDIATELY!!
WE HAVE INFORMATION THAT TERRORISTS ARE HIDING IN THIS AREA!!


WE ARE M.P.S FROM THE PEACE-KEEPING FORCE!!

CRNCH


I REPEAT!! TERRORISTS HAVE INFILTRATED THE VICINITY!
SCRNCH

YES-SIR!
WE'LL OUTFLANK HIM! GESICHT, YOU GO AROUND THE BACK!

SWP

TP

DASH

SWP

SWIP
!!

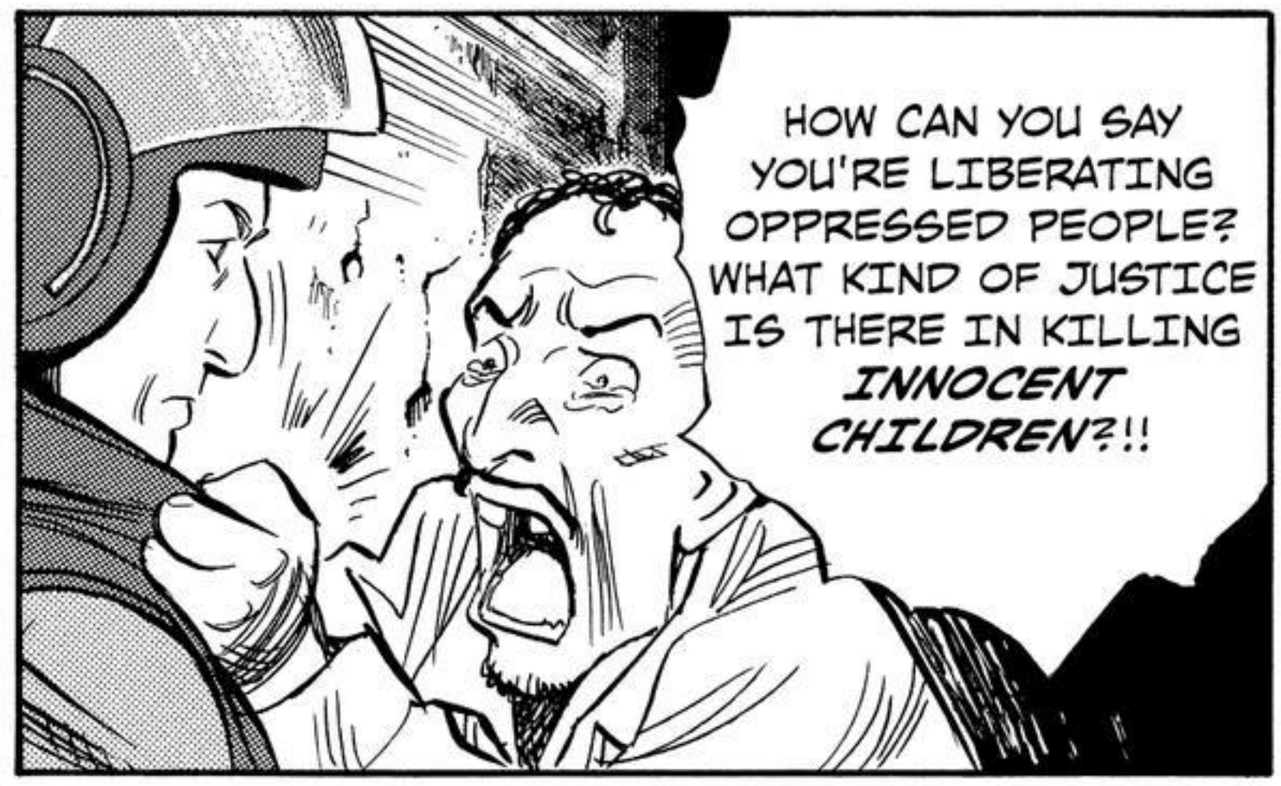
?

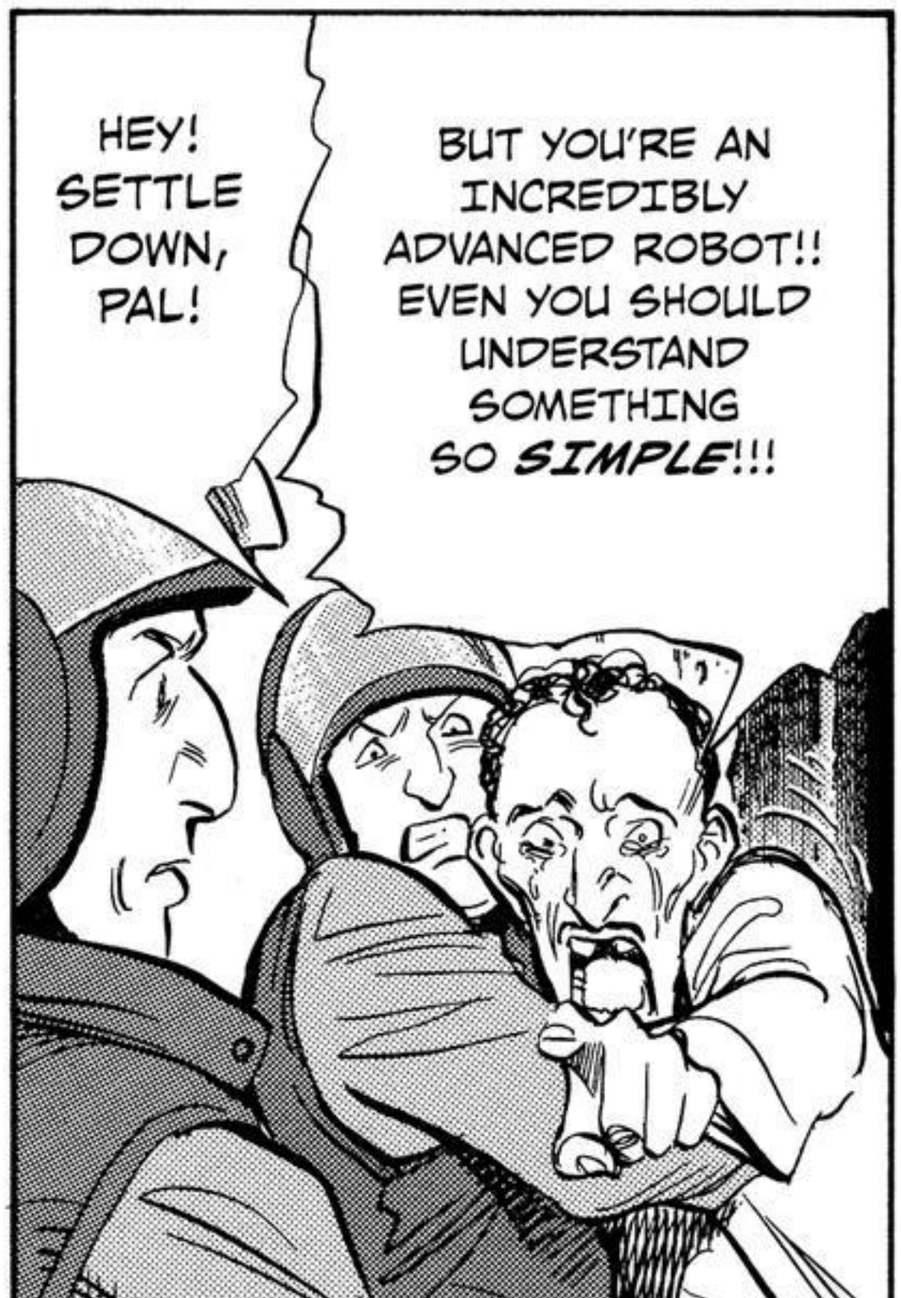
NO TERRORISTS HERE...

THERE AREN'T ANY HERE...

...INNOCENT CHILDREN!!
THERE WERE ONLY...

YOU DROPPED YOUR BOMBS ON *SLEEPING BABIES*!!





WHAT'S HAPPENING?

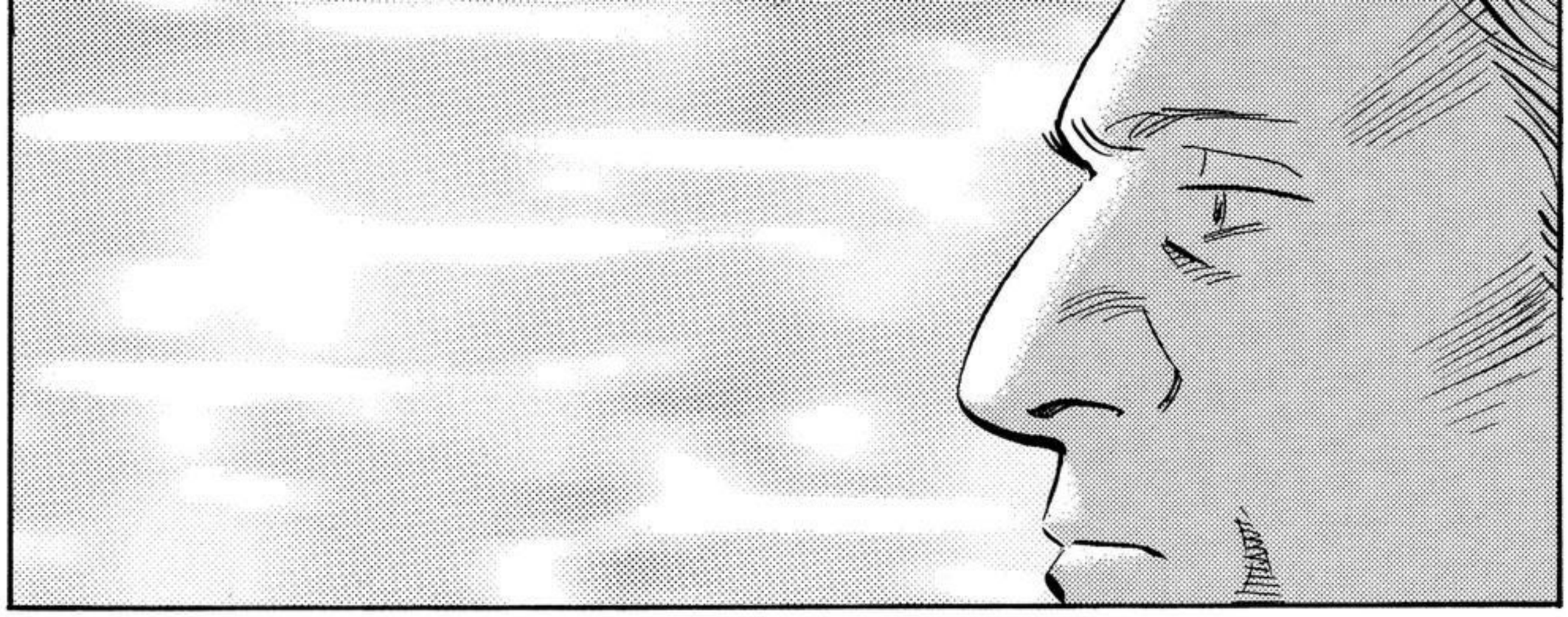
ARGGHHH!!

HE'S IN TOTAL DESPAIR, GESICHT...

ARGH!!

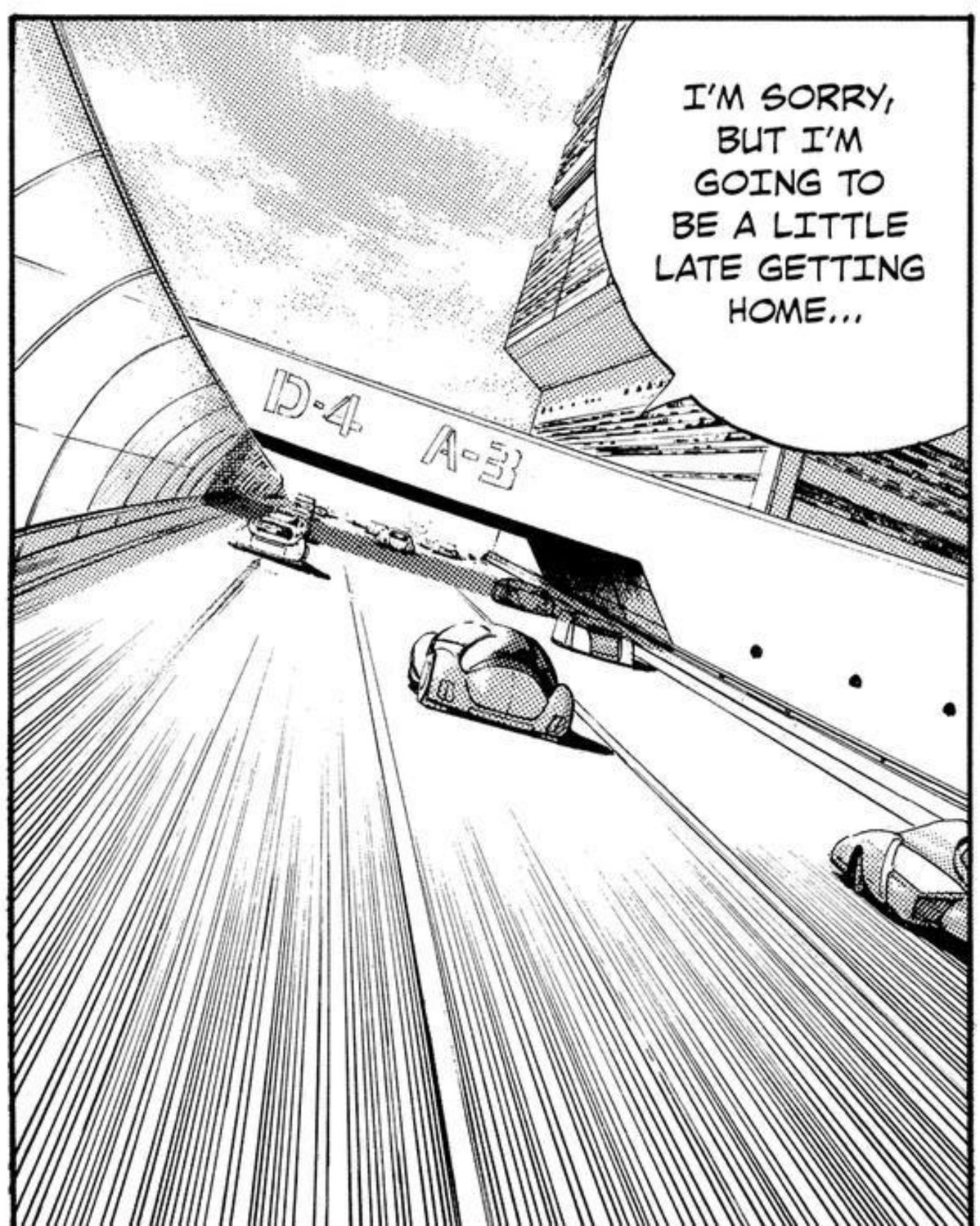
LET'S GET OUT OF HERE...
...IT'S AN EMOTION ROBOTS LIKE YOU PROBABLY CAN'T UNDERSTAND...

DESPAIR...



...IS STILL PERFECT...

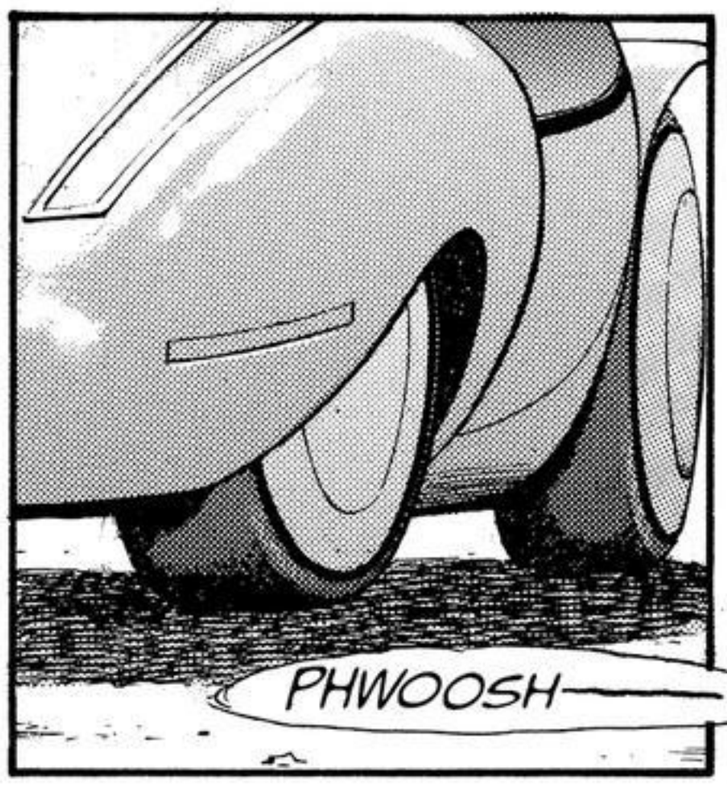
MY MEMORY FROM FOUR YEARS AGO...

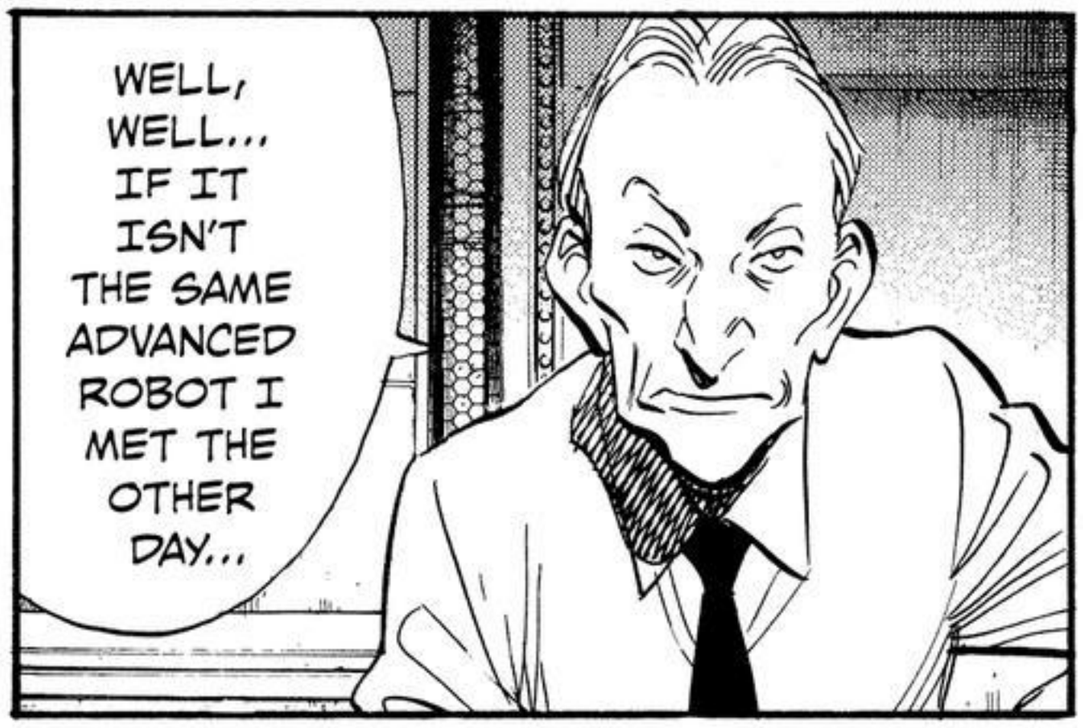

I'M SORRY, BUT I'M GOING TO BE A LITTLE LATE GETTING HOME...
D-4
A-3

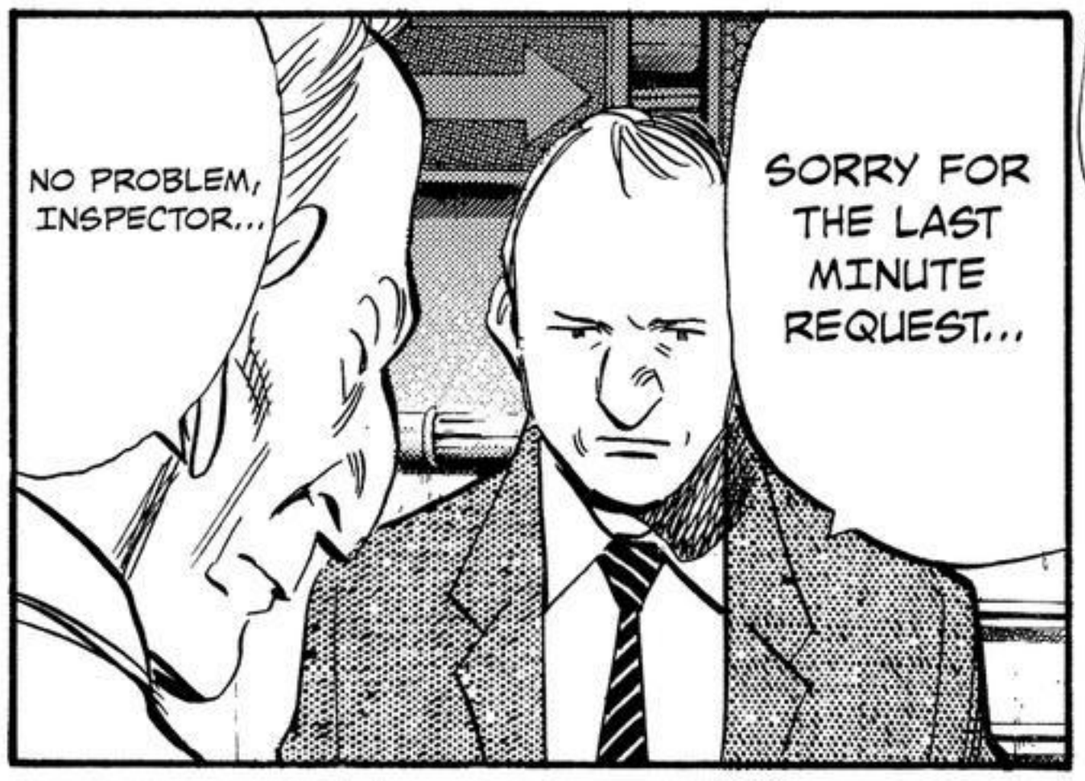
HELLO, HELENA?

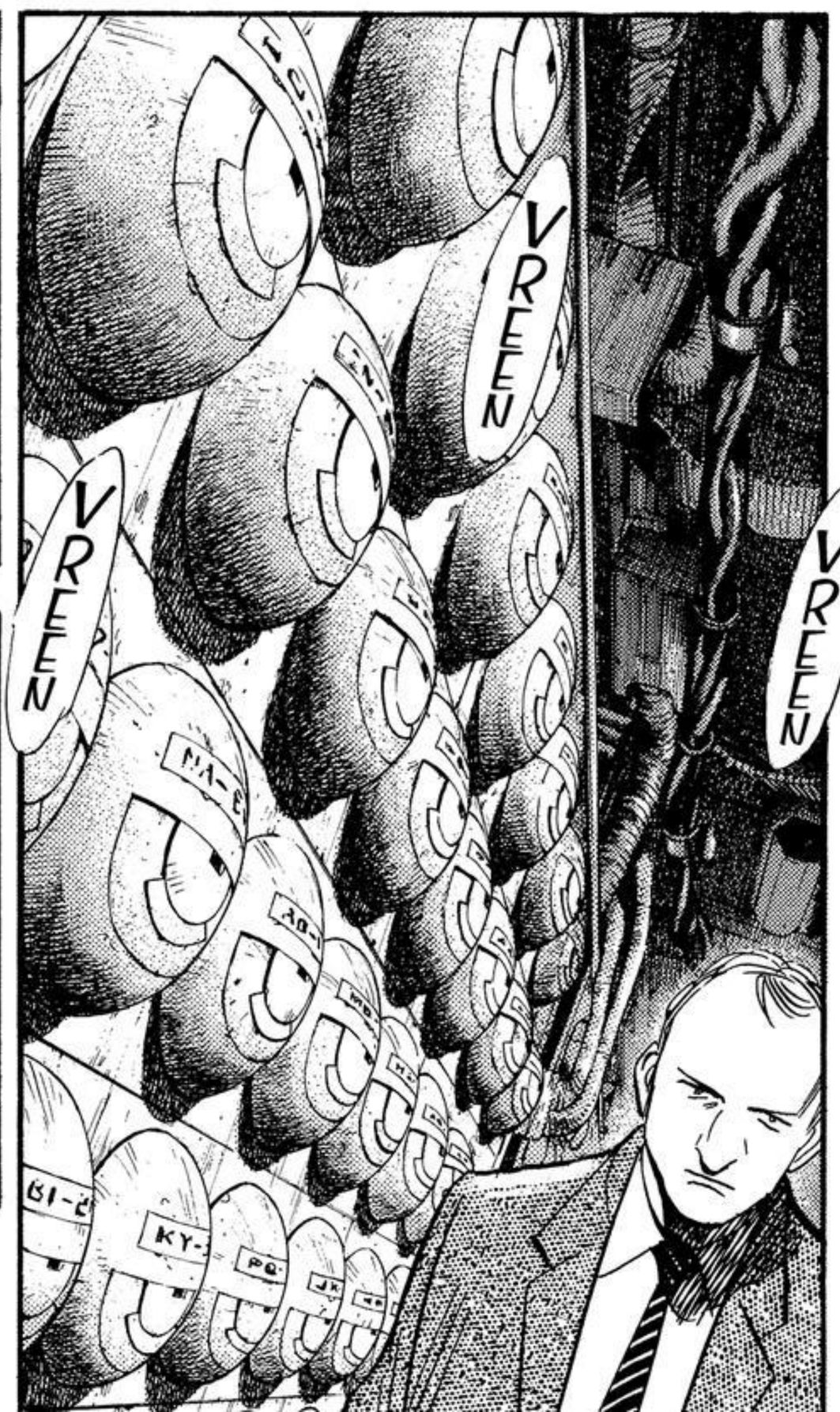
LISTEN, I JUST REMEMBERED SOMETHING I HAVE TO DO...
IT'S ME...

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE
CORRECTIONAL FACILITY



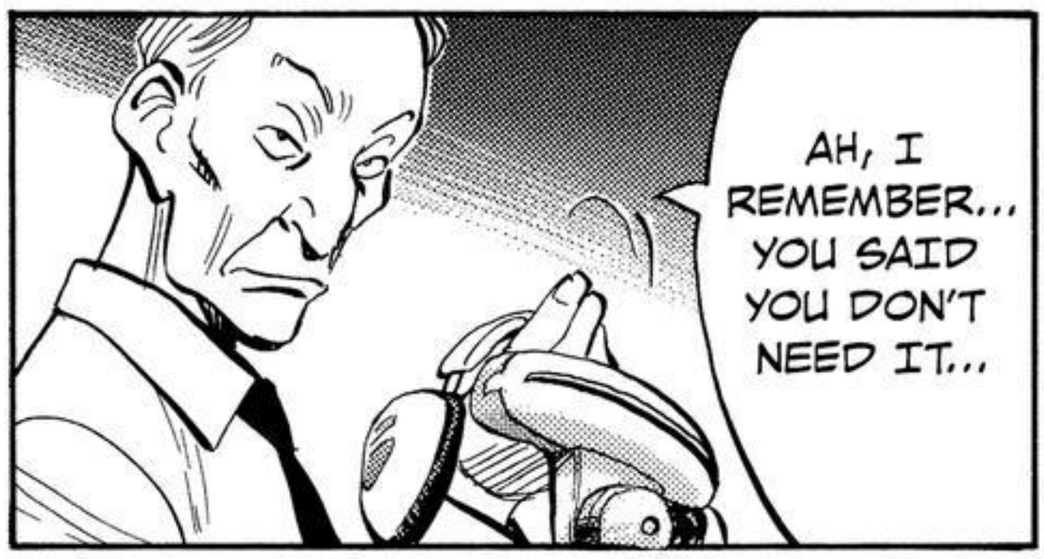


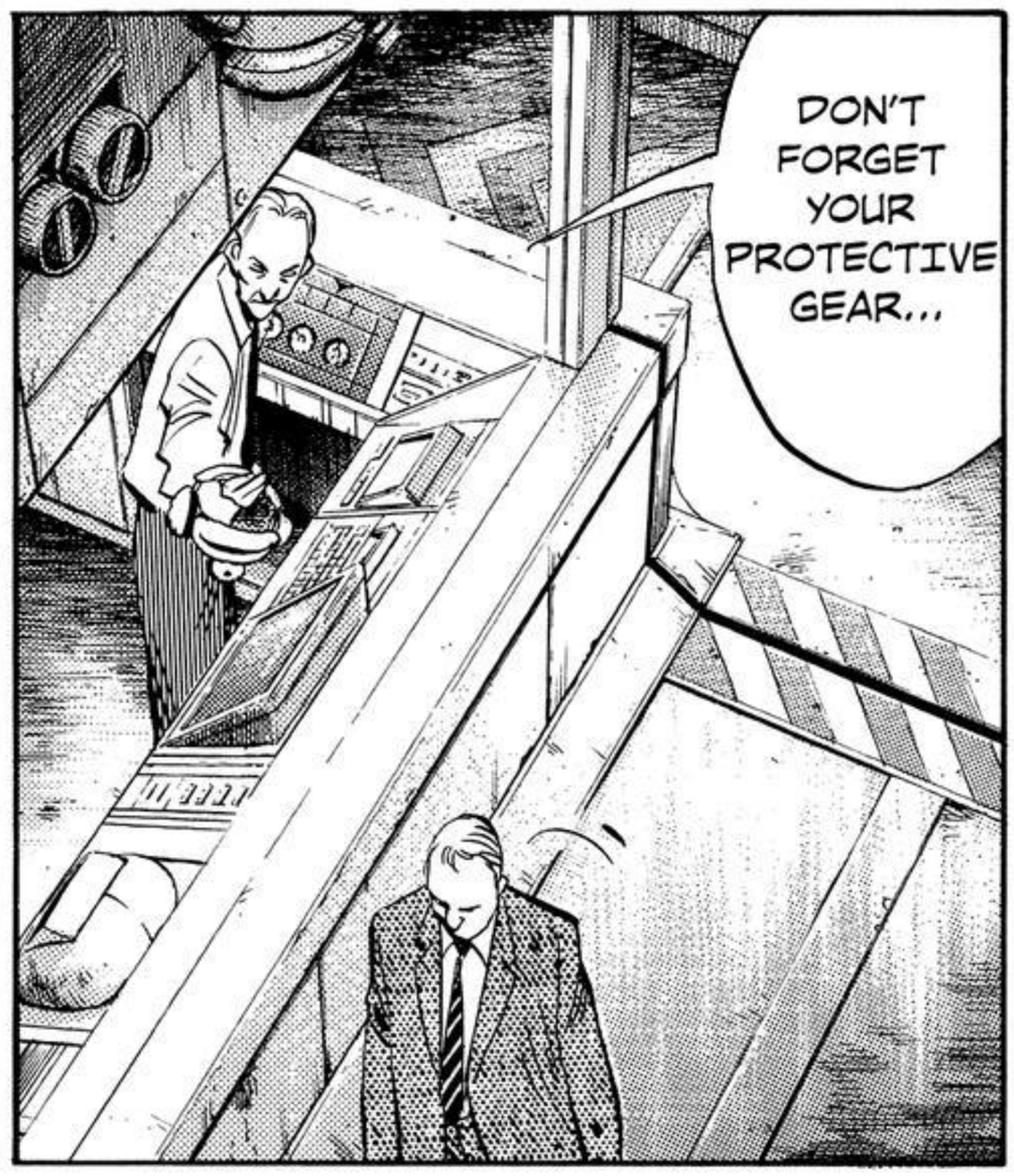


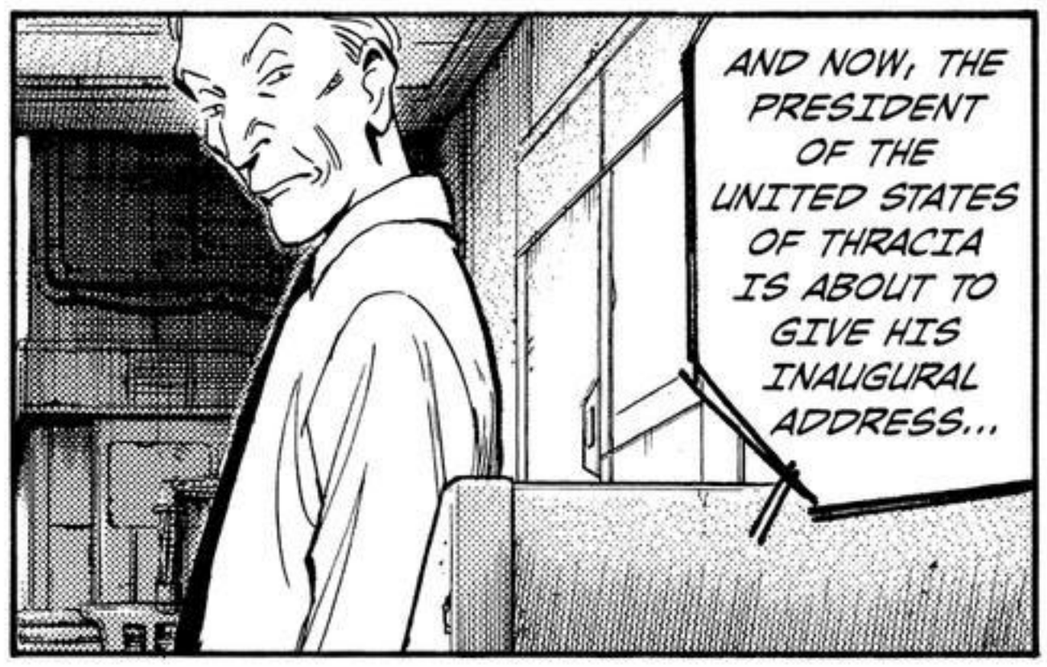


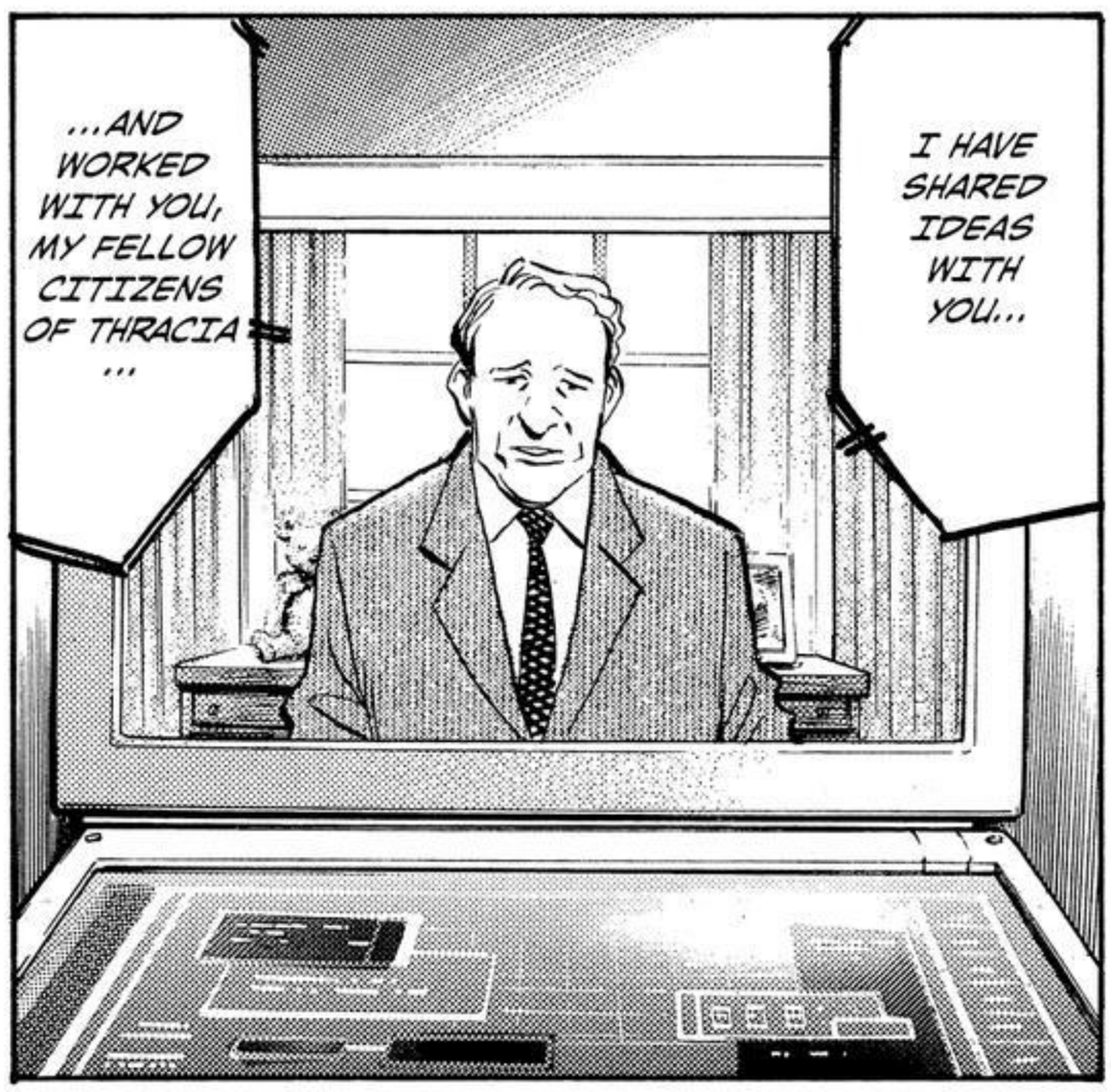
...

HE'S BEEN WAITING FOR YOU...


AH, I REMEMBER... YOU SAID YOU DON'T NEED IT...

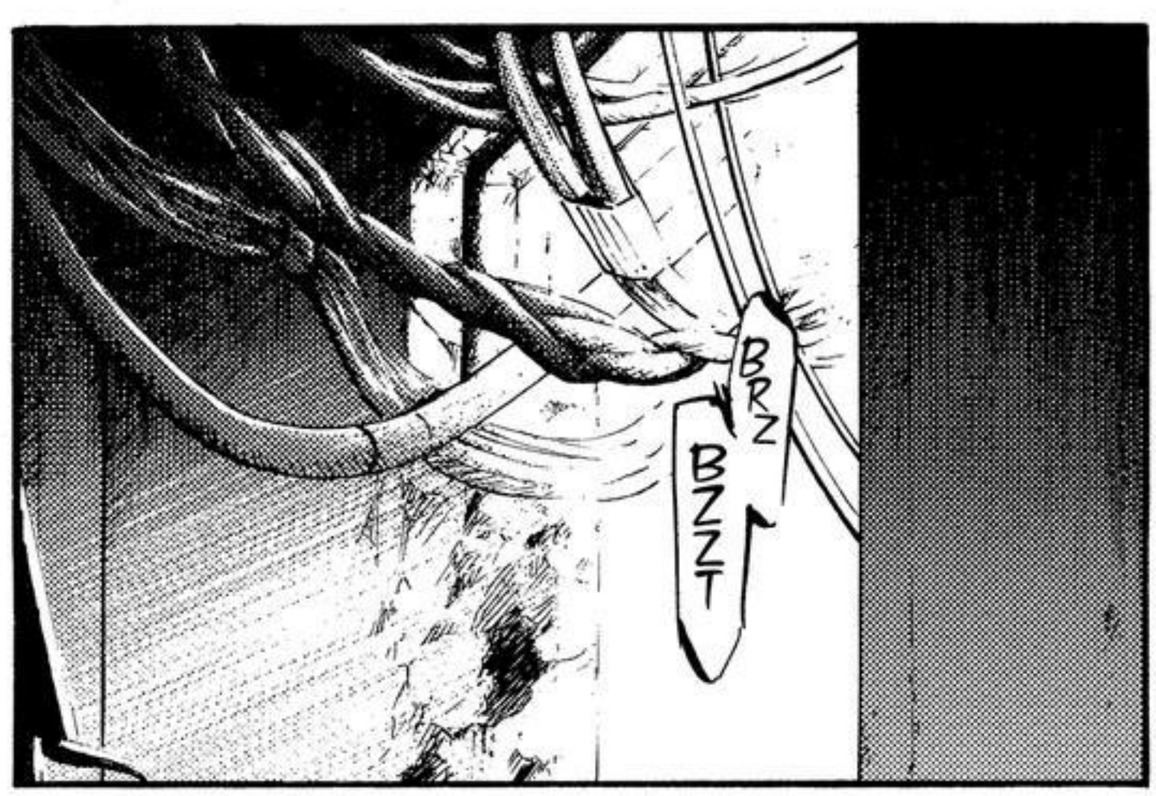

DON'T FORGET YOUR PROTECTIVE GEAR...

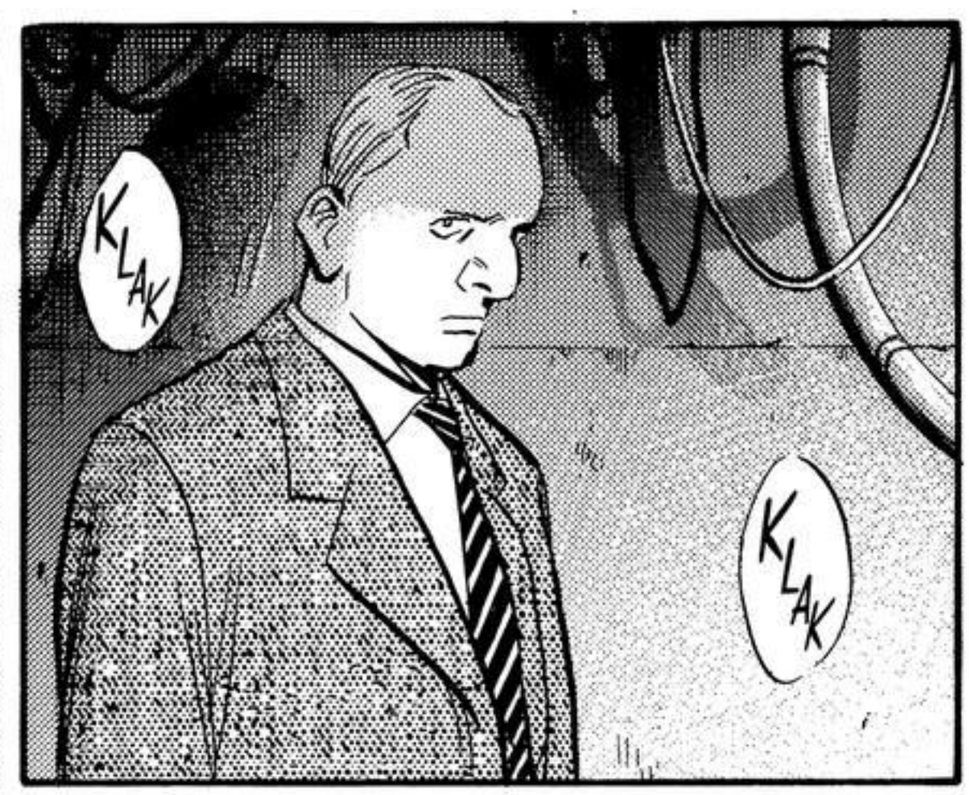

AND NOW, THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF THRACIA IS ABOUT TO GIVE HIS INAUGURAL ADDRESS...


...AND WORKED WITH YOU, MY FELLOW CITIZENS OF THRACIA ...
I HAVE SHARED IDEAS WITH YOU...

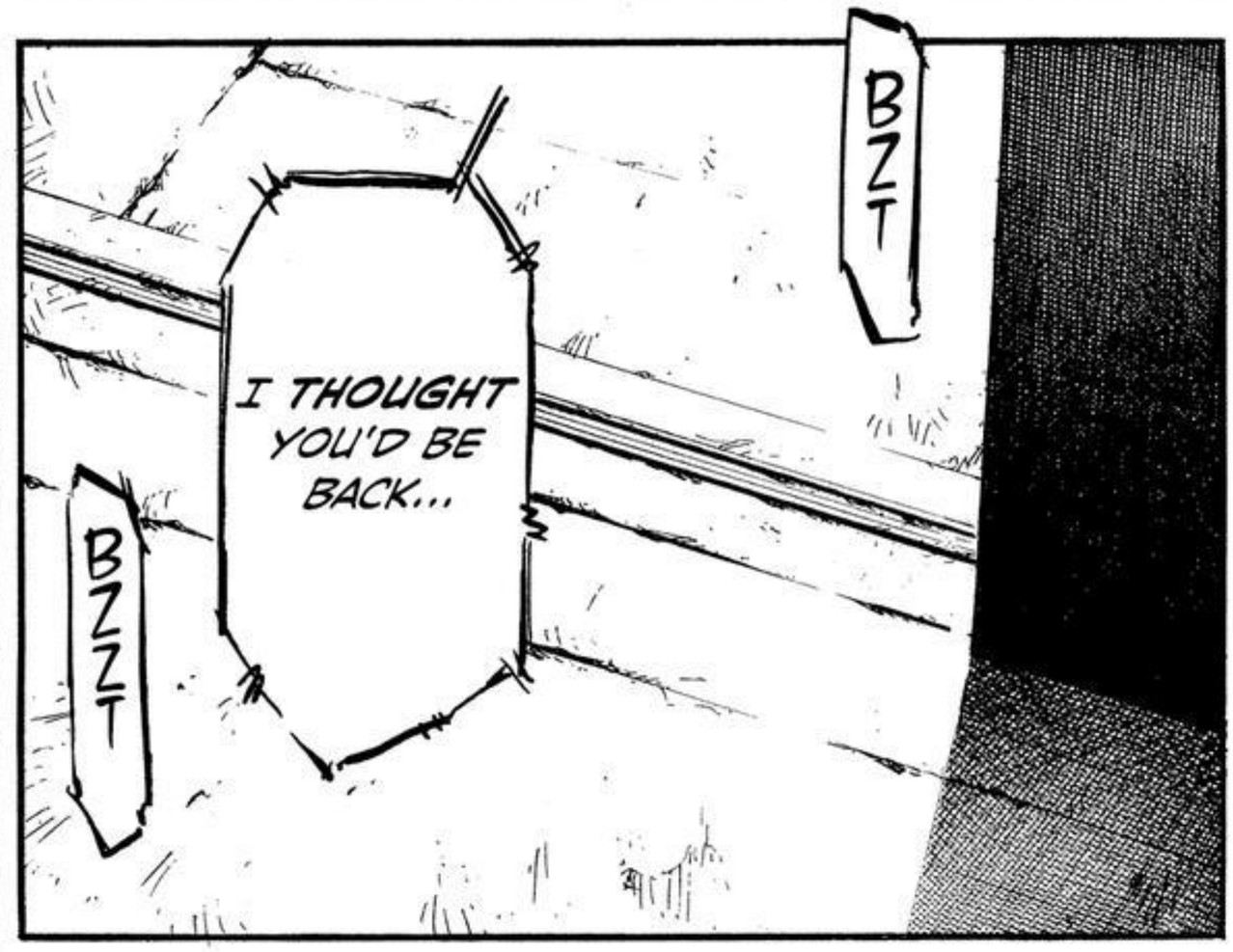
HMPH... ANOTHER INAUGURAL ADDRESS... BET IT'S THE SAME OLD STUFF...

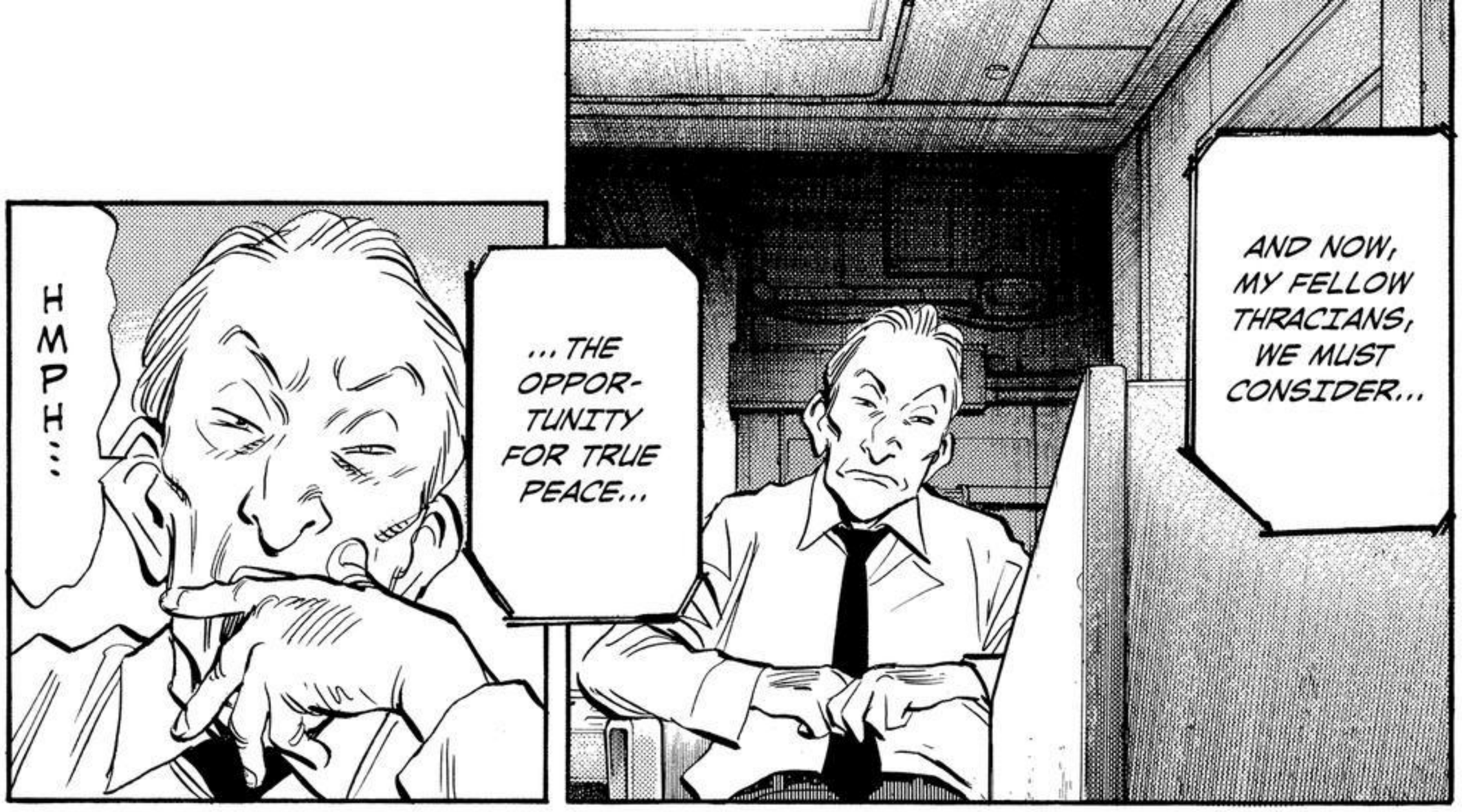
VREEN
VREEN
VREEN


BRZ
BZZT

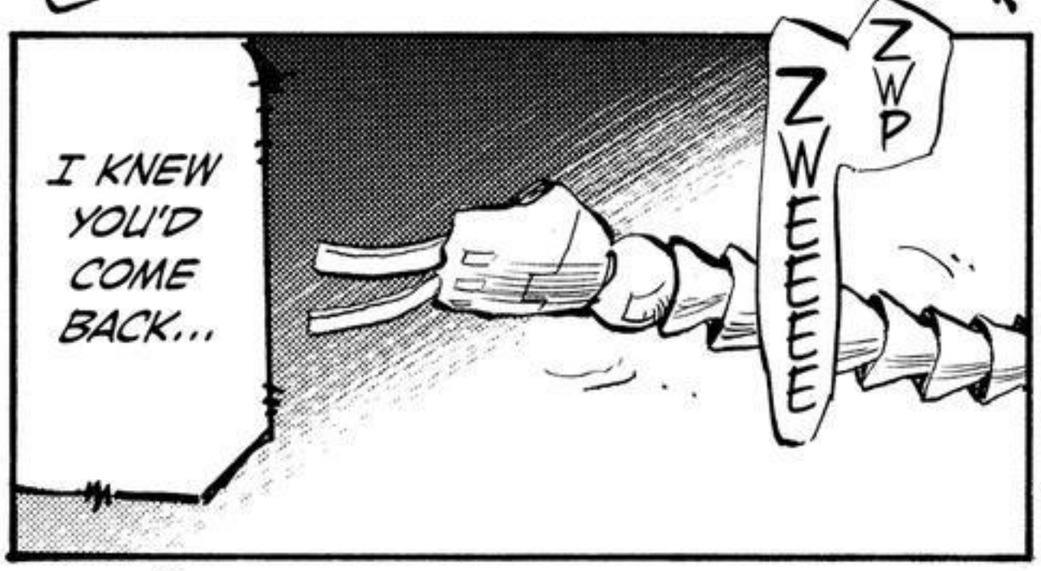

KLAK
KLAK

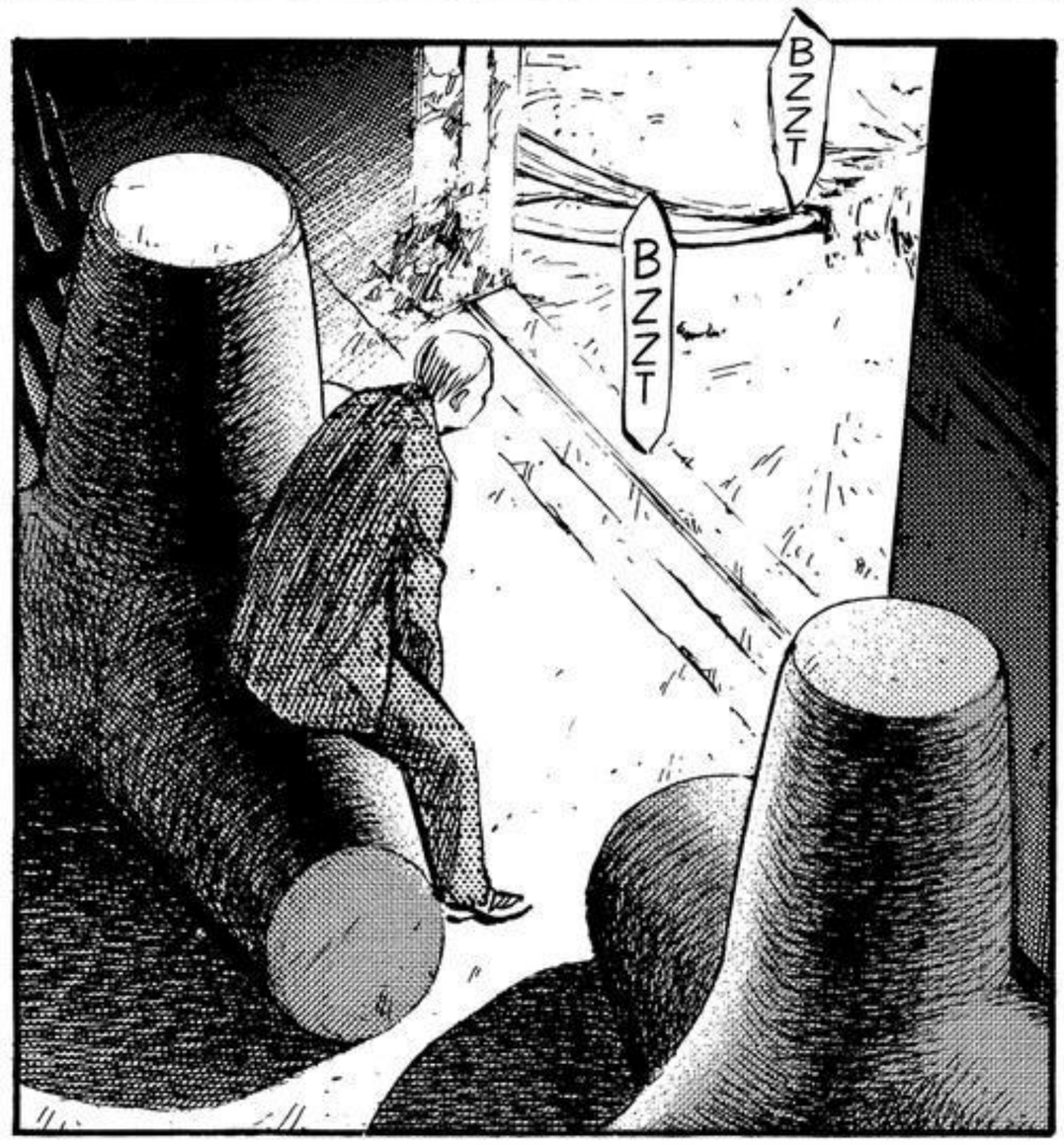
KLAK


BZZT
I THOUGHT YOU'D BE BACK...
BZZT


HMPH...
...THE OPPOR-TUNITY FOR TRUE PEACE...
AND NOW, MY FELLOW THRACIANS, WE MUST CONSIDER...

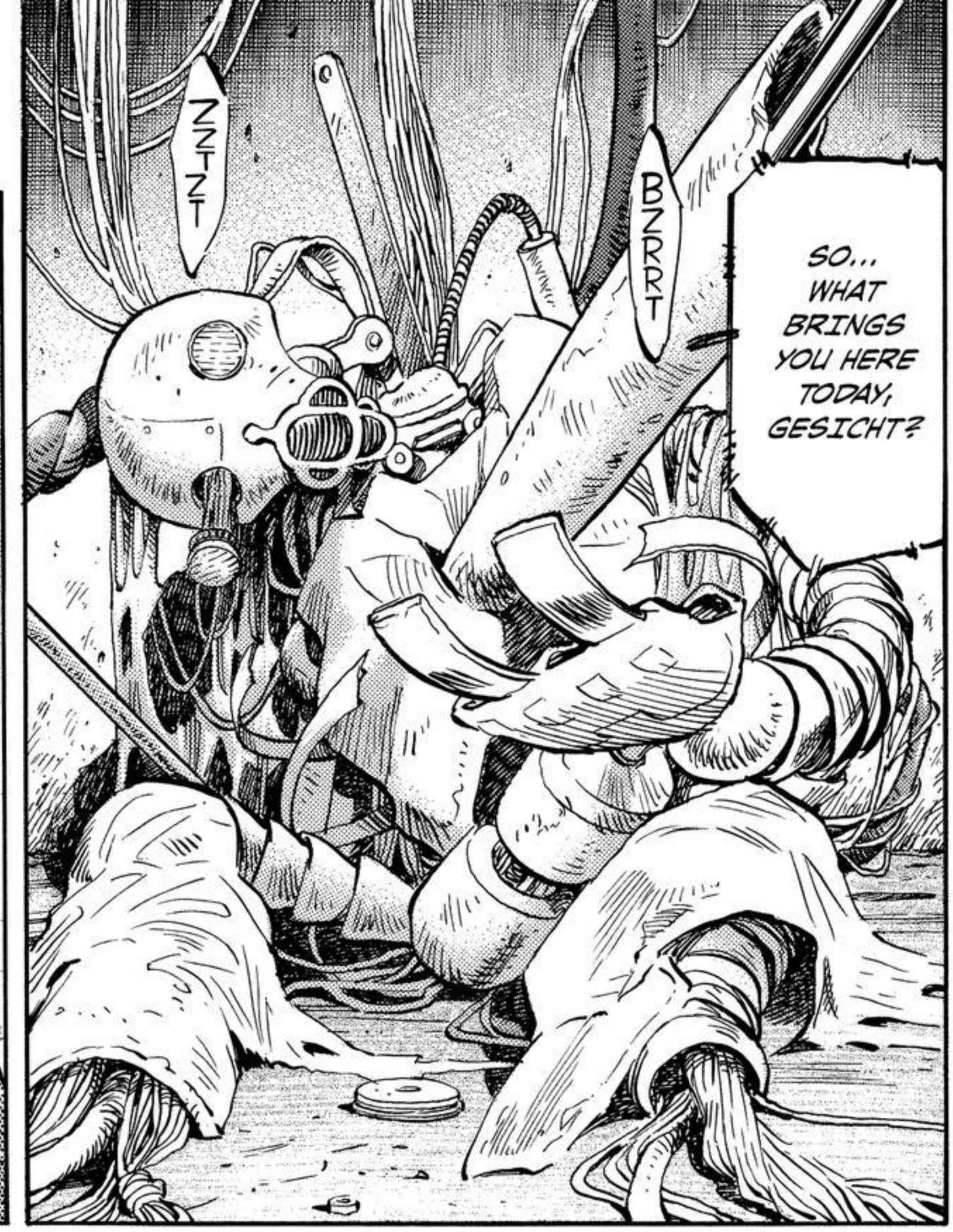
ZZT
BZZT
I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU, GESICHT...


I KNEW YOU'D COME BACK...
ZWEEEEE
ZWP

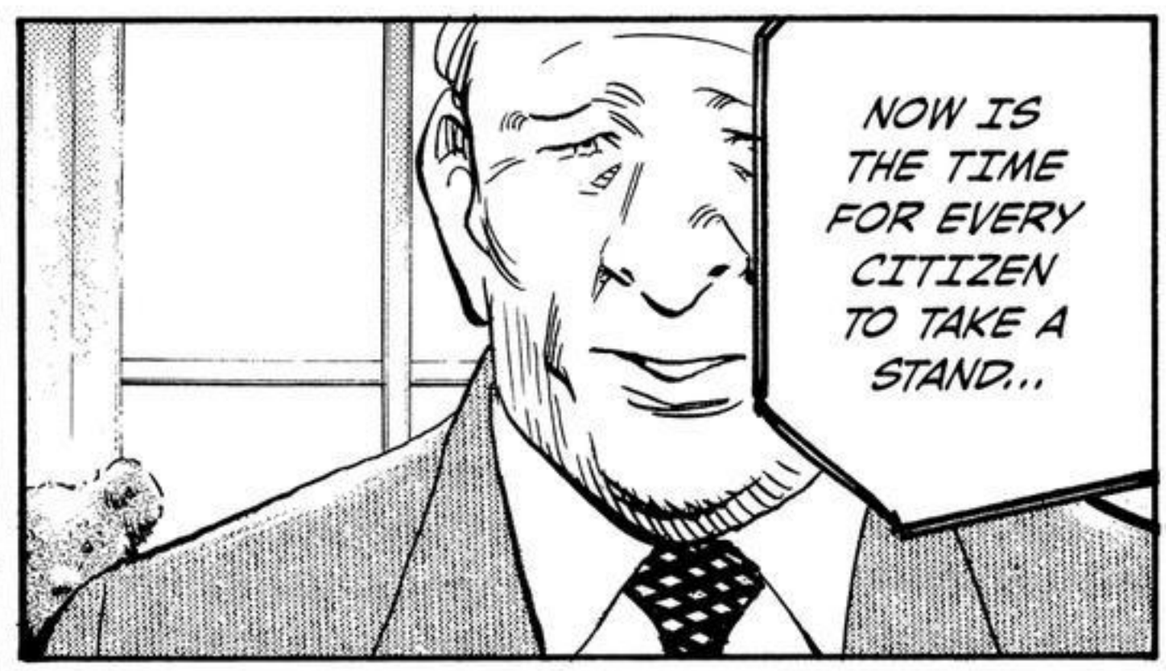

BZZT
BZZT

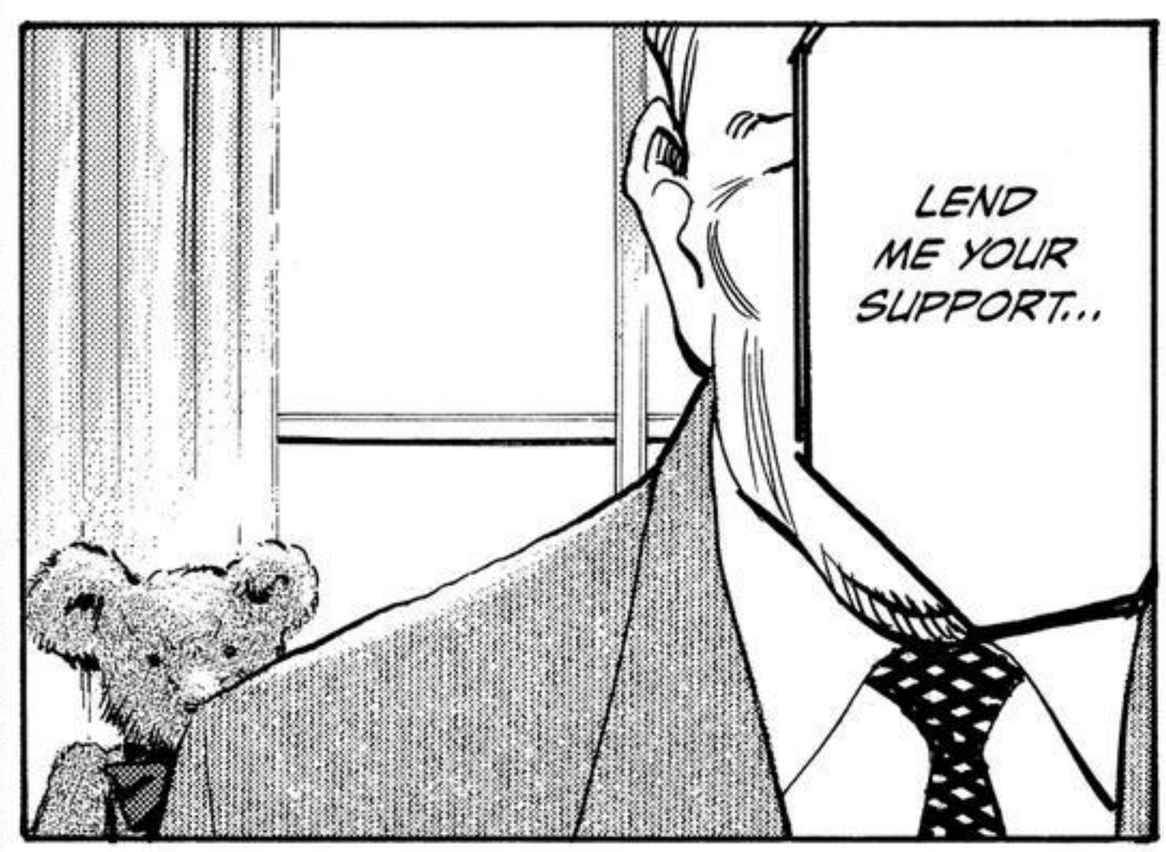
BZZT
BZT

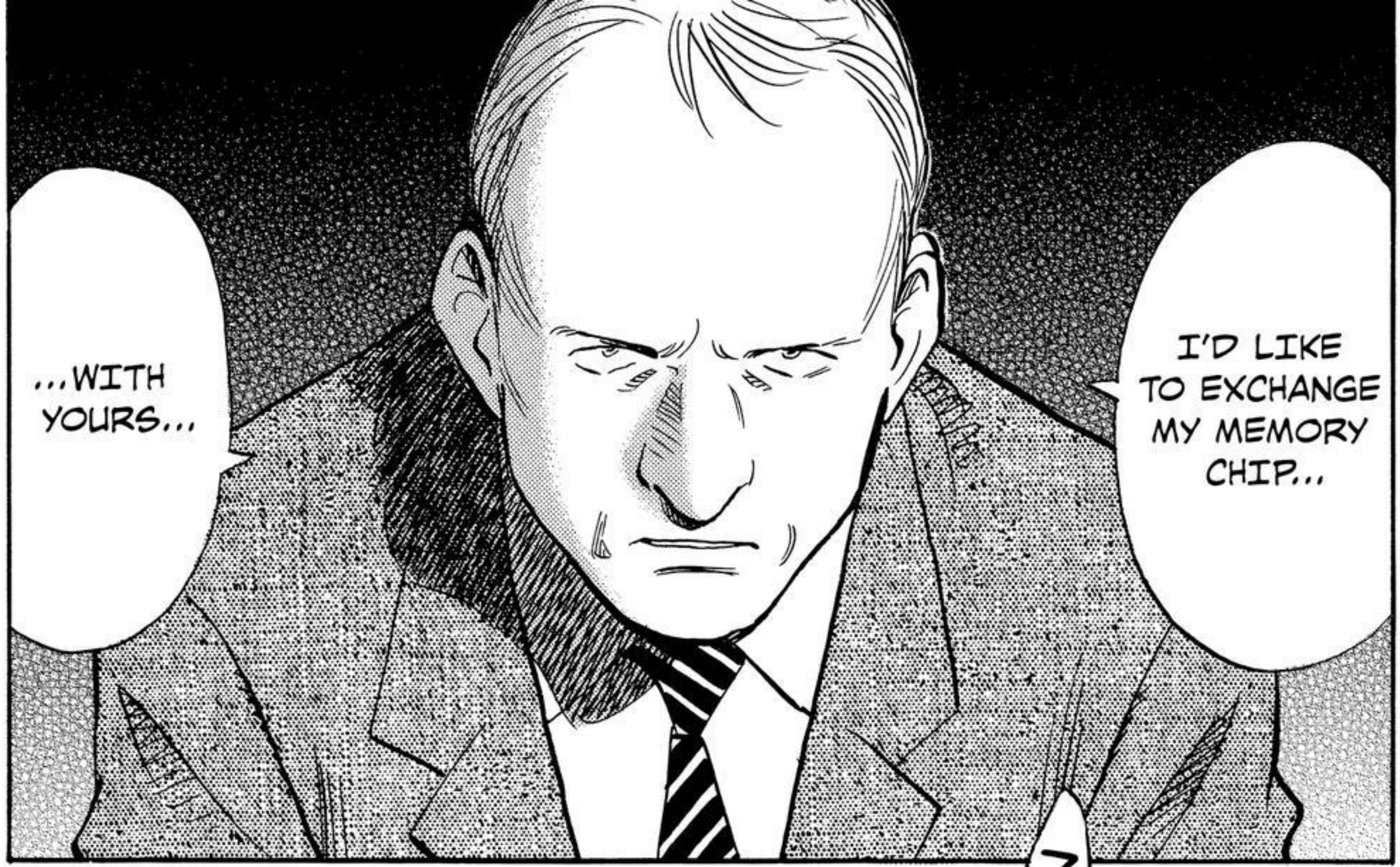
LET ME ASK YOU, IF NOT NOW, WHEN...? WHEN WILL WE EVER RID THE WORLD OF ALL ITS WEAPONS...
...AND FINALLY ESTABLISH A TRUE AND LASTING PEACE?!!

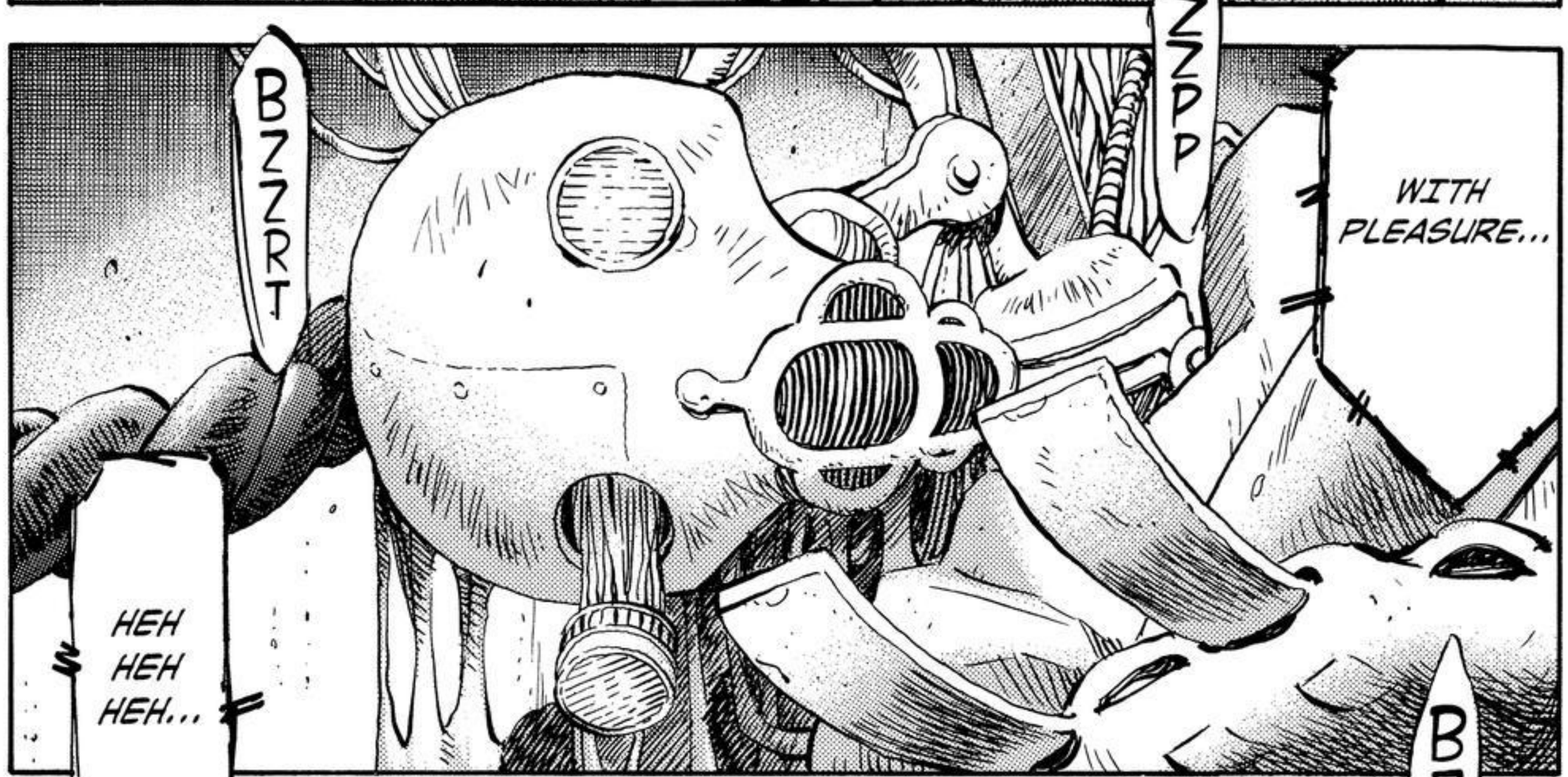

ZZTZT
BZRRT
SO... WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE TODAY, GESICHT?

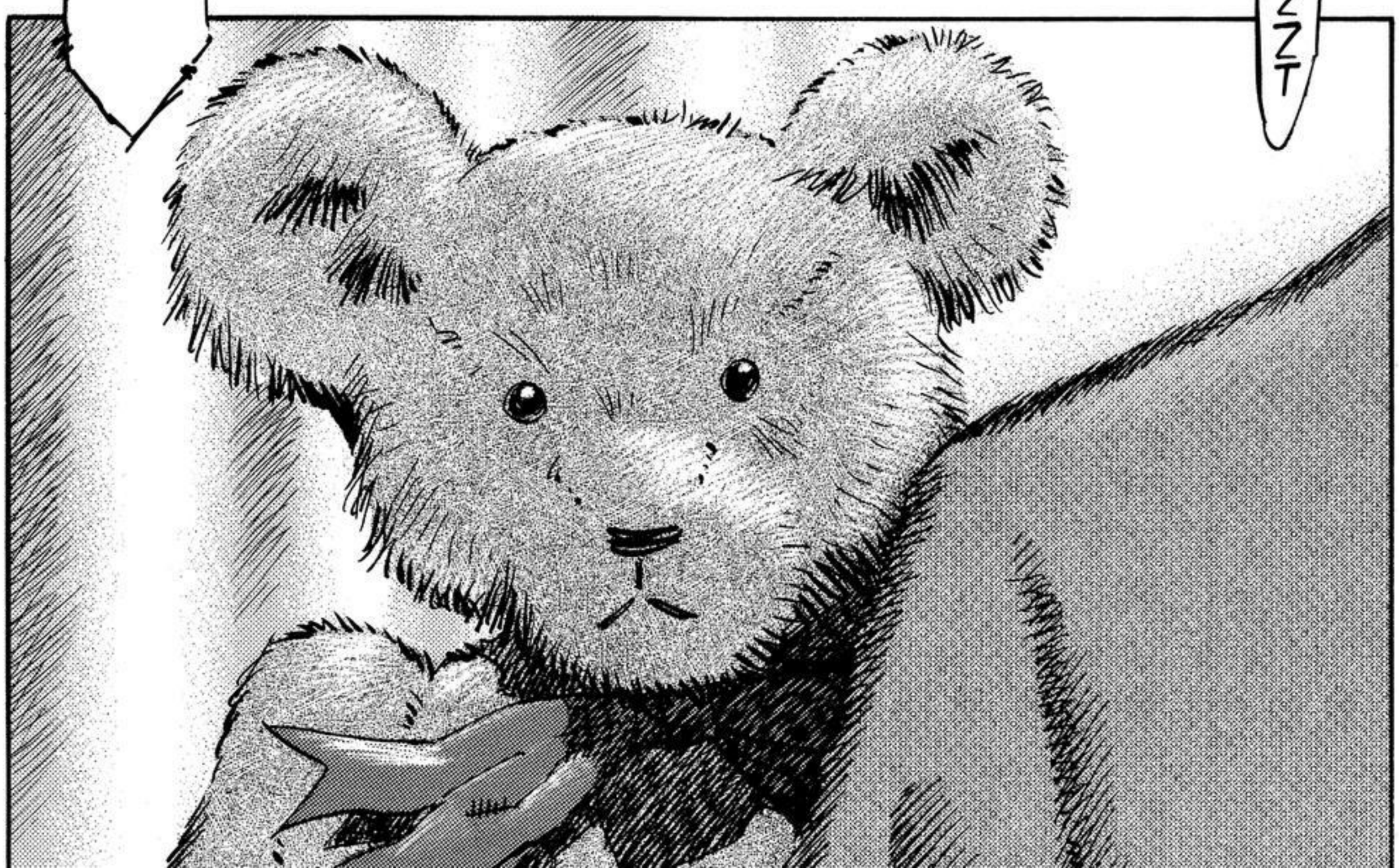
...AND WE WILL CREATE A TRUE UTOPIA ON EARTH!!

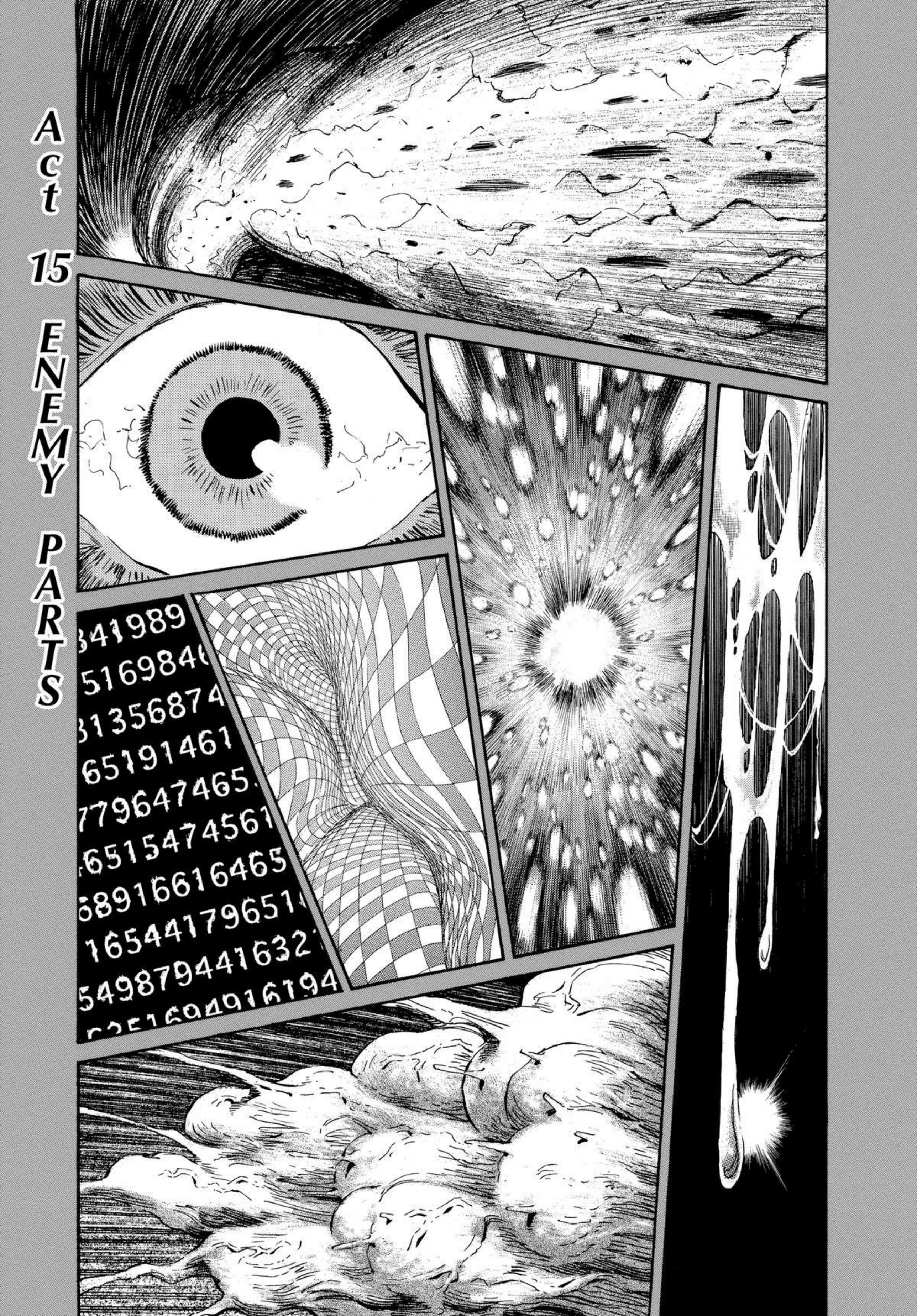

NOW IS THE TIME FOR EVERY CITIZEN TO TAKE A STAND...


LEND ME YOUR SUPPORT...


...WITH YOURS...
I'D LIKE TO EXCHANGE MY MEMORY CHIP...


BZZRT
ZZDP
WITH PLEASURE...
HEH HEH HEH...
BZZT




Act 15
ENEMY PARTS
341989
5169840
31356874
65191461
779647465
6515474561
6891661646 5
165441796 51
549879441632

AAAAGH!!
GASP!!

HUF
HUF
HUF

HUF
HUF

HUF
HUF

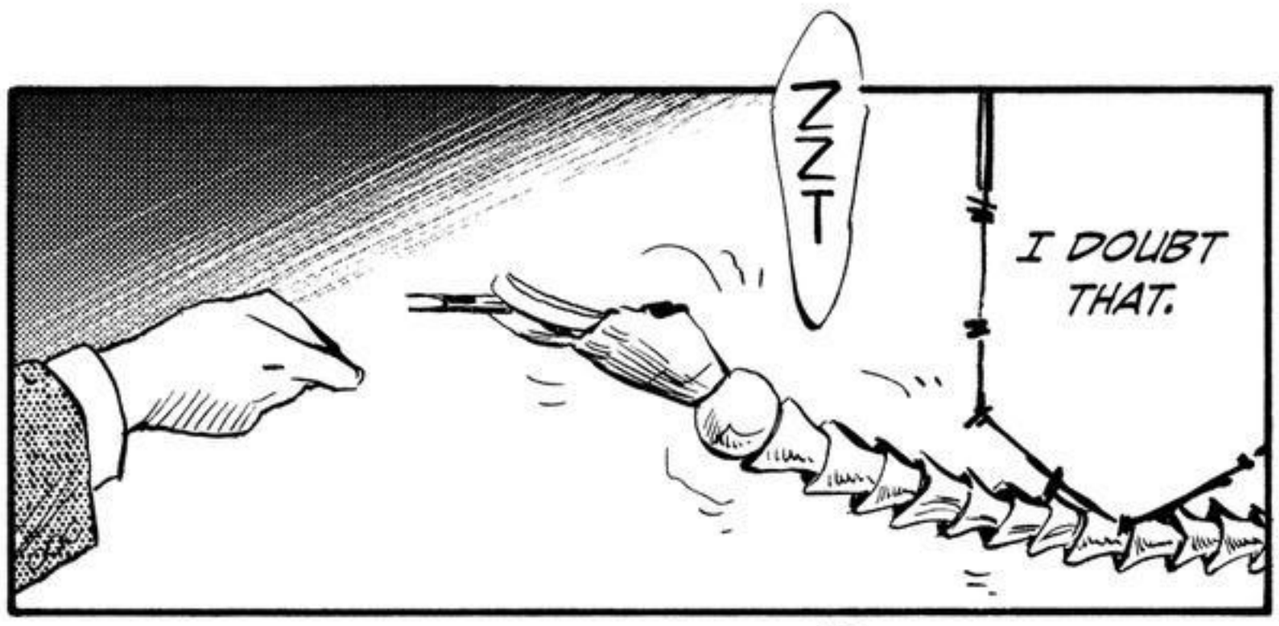
HEH HEH HEH HEH ...

HUF

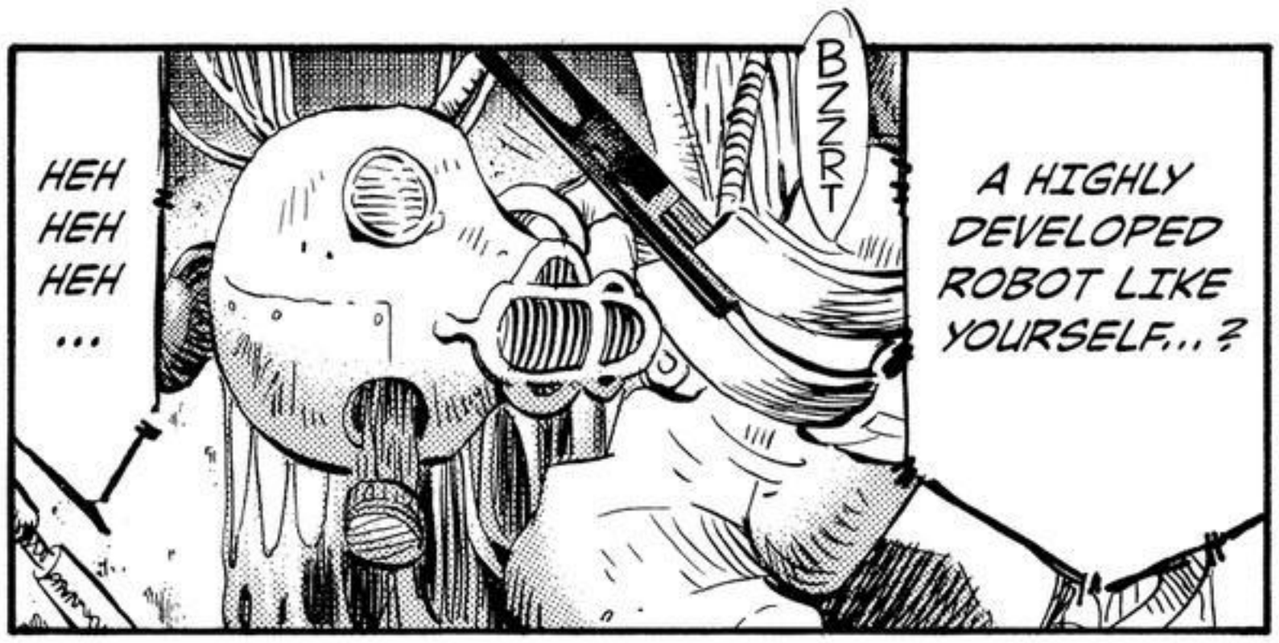
HUF

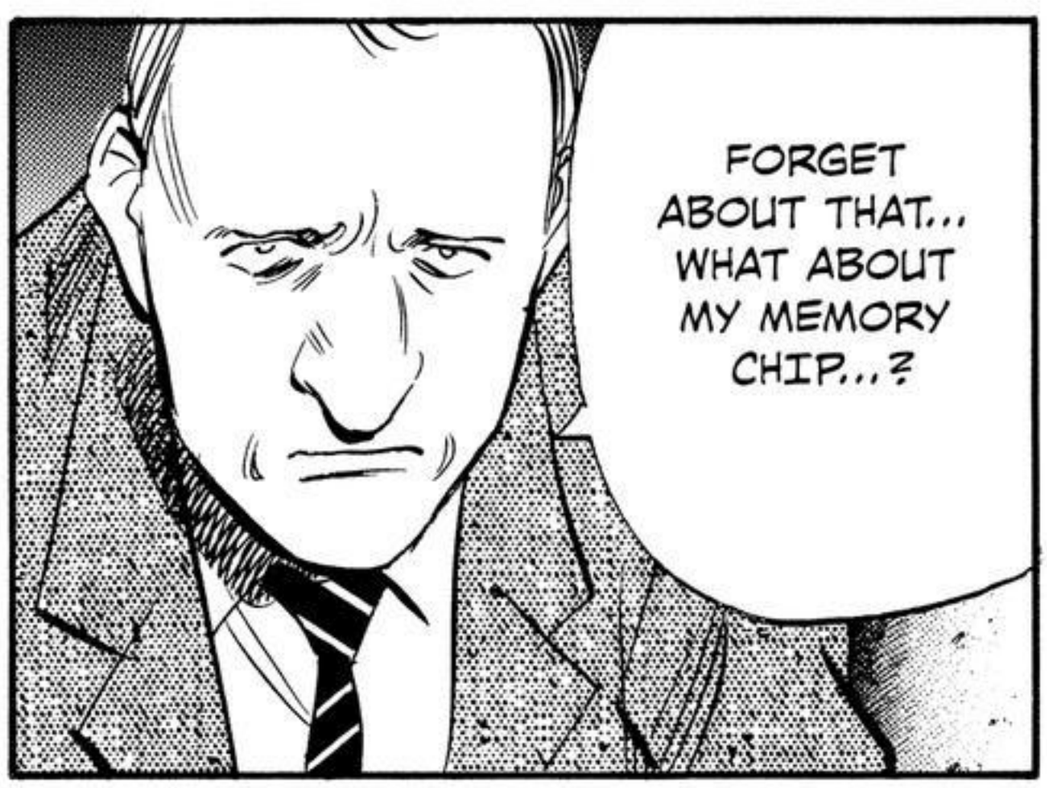
HEH HEH HEH ...

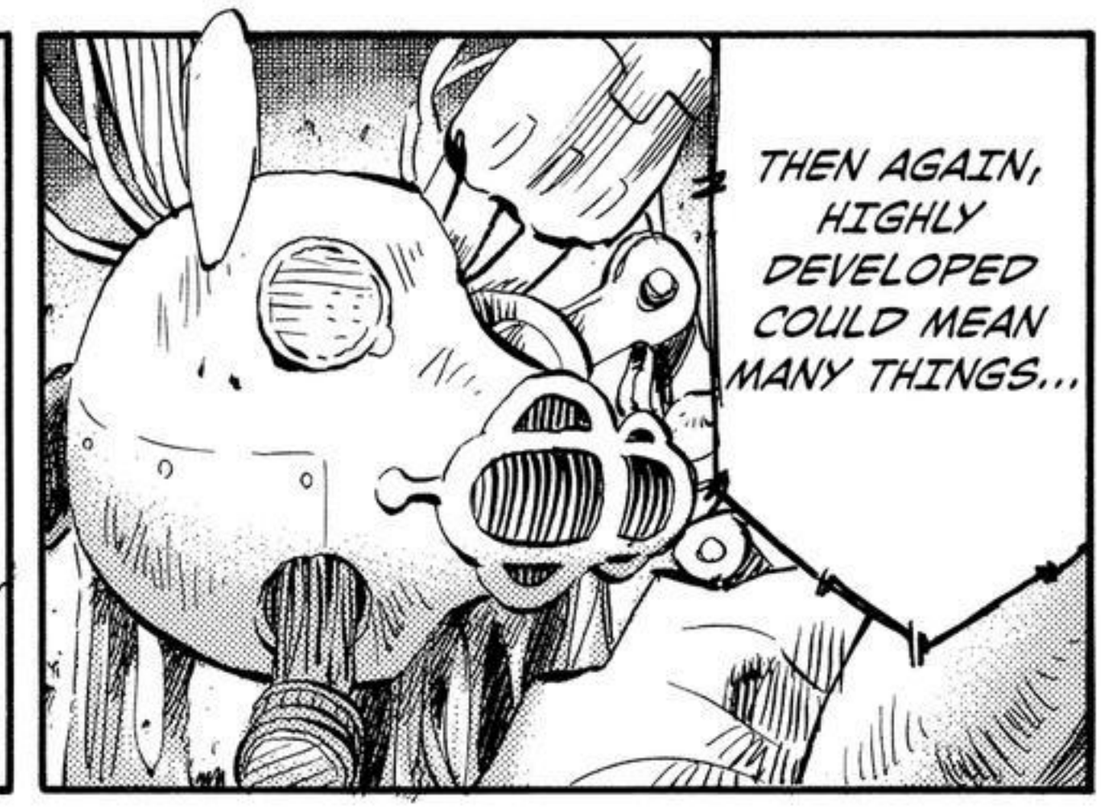
WELL? HOW DID YOU LIKE THE CONTENTS OF MY MEMORY CHIP?

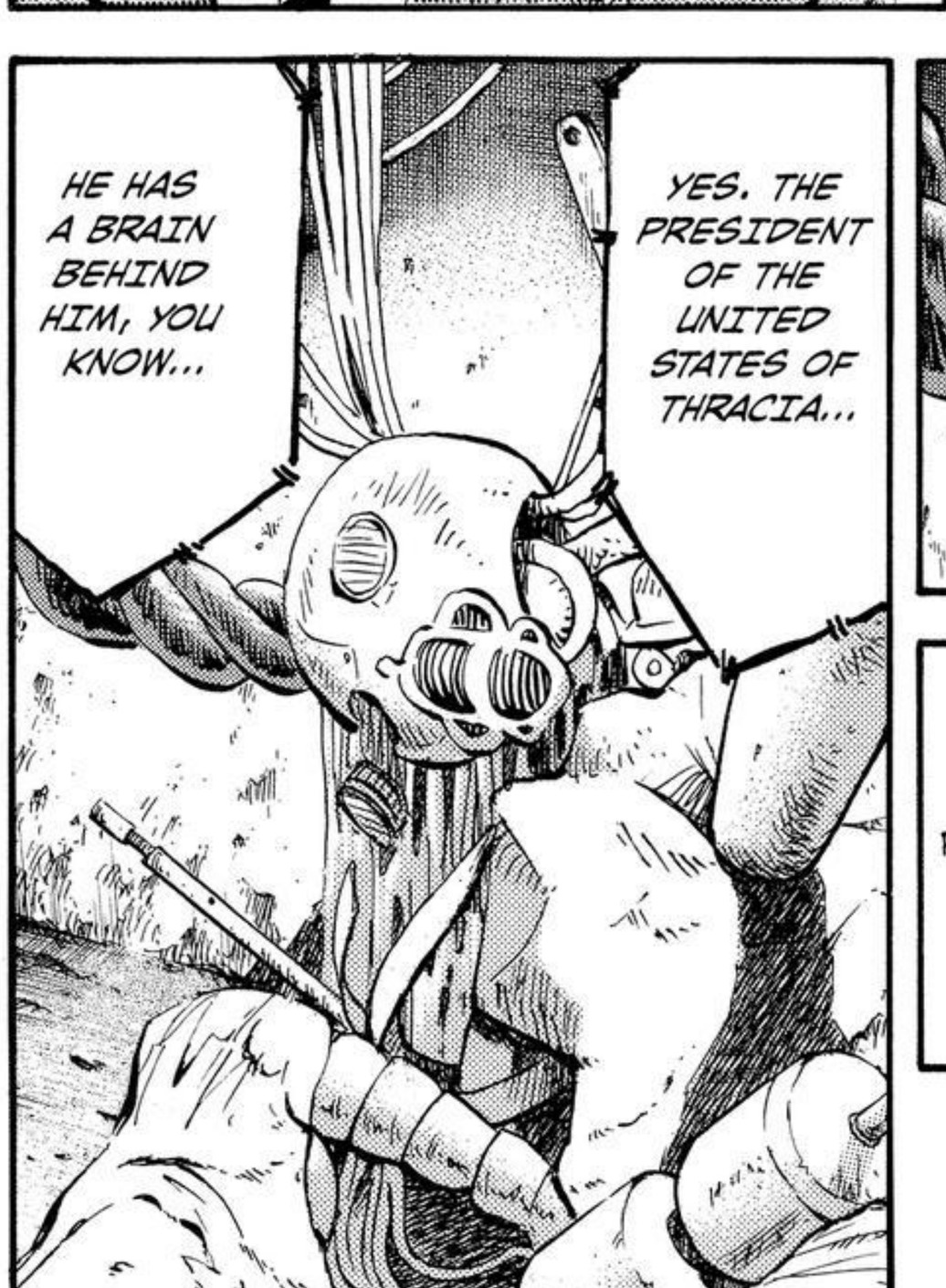

ZZT
I DOUBT THAT.

I... I COULDN'T READ THE DATA...

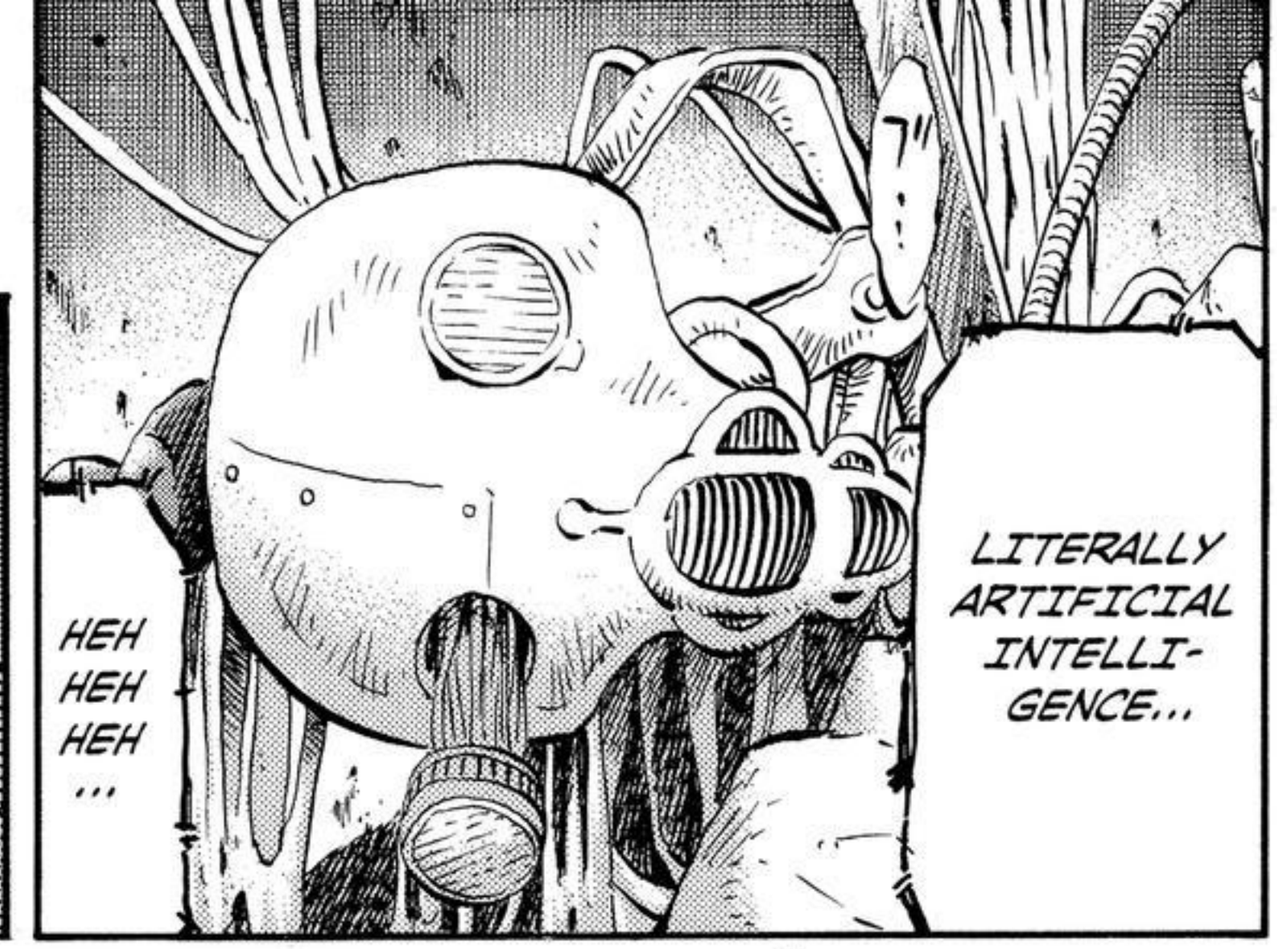

HEH HEH HEH ...
BZZRT
A HIGHLY DEVELOPED ROBOT LIKE YOURSELF...?

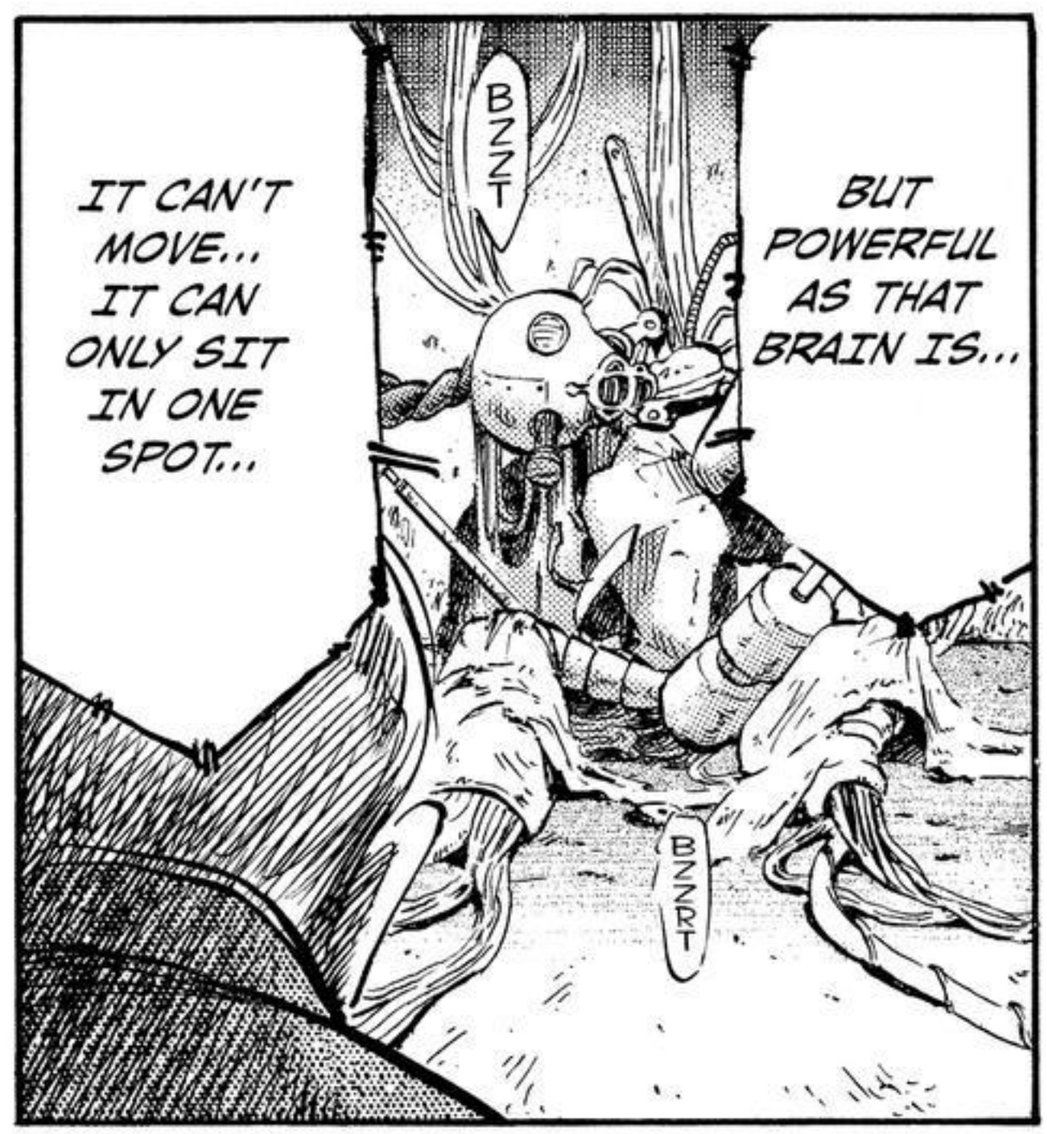

FORGET ABOUT THAT... WHAT ABOUT MY MEMORY CHIP...?

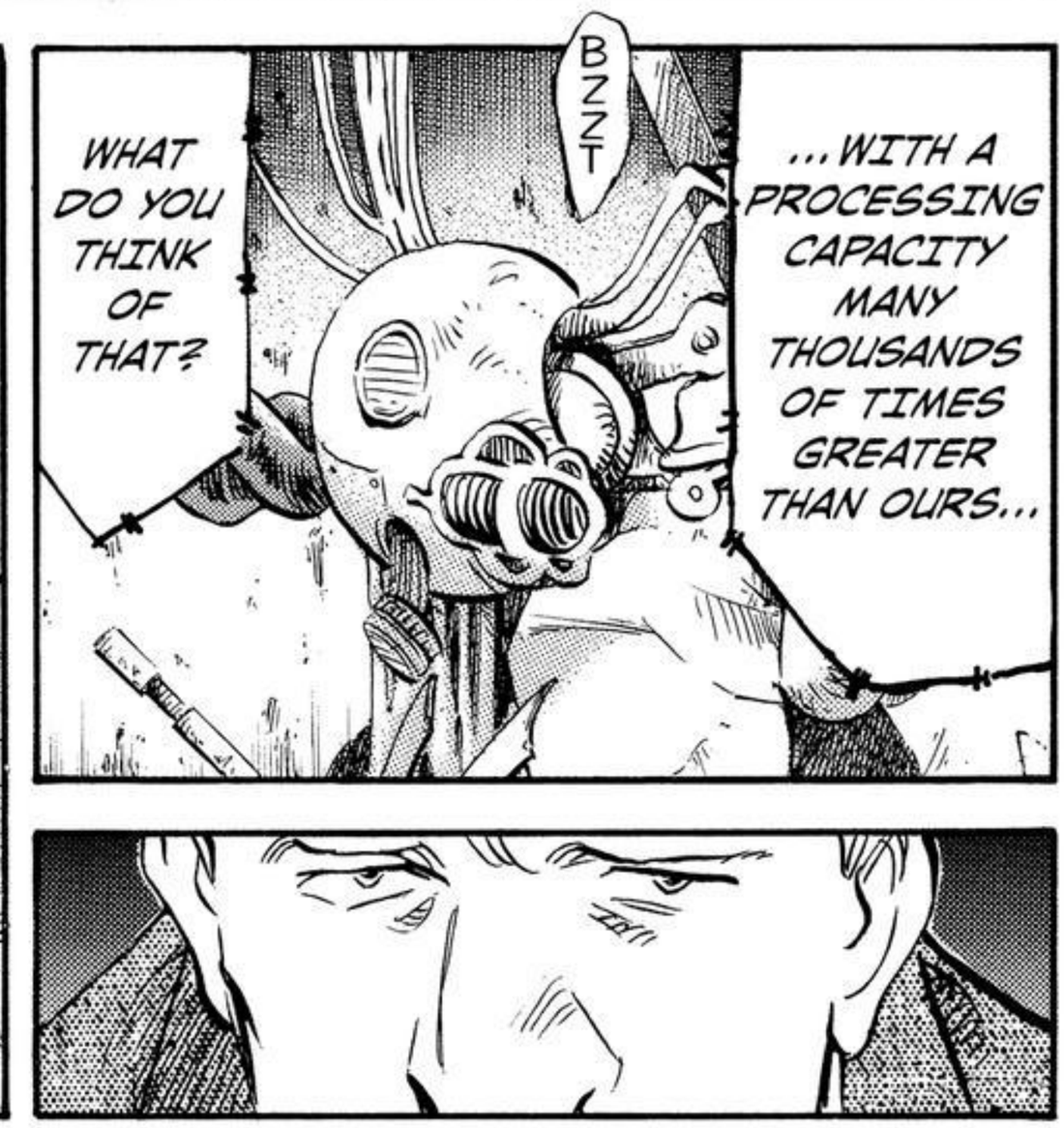

THEN AGAIN, HIGHLY DEVELOPED COULD MEAN MANY THINGS...

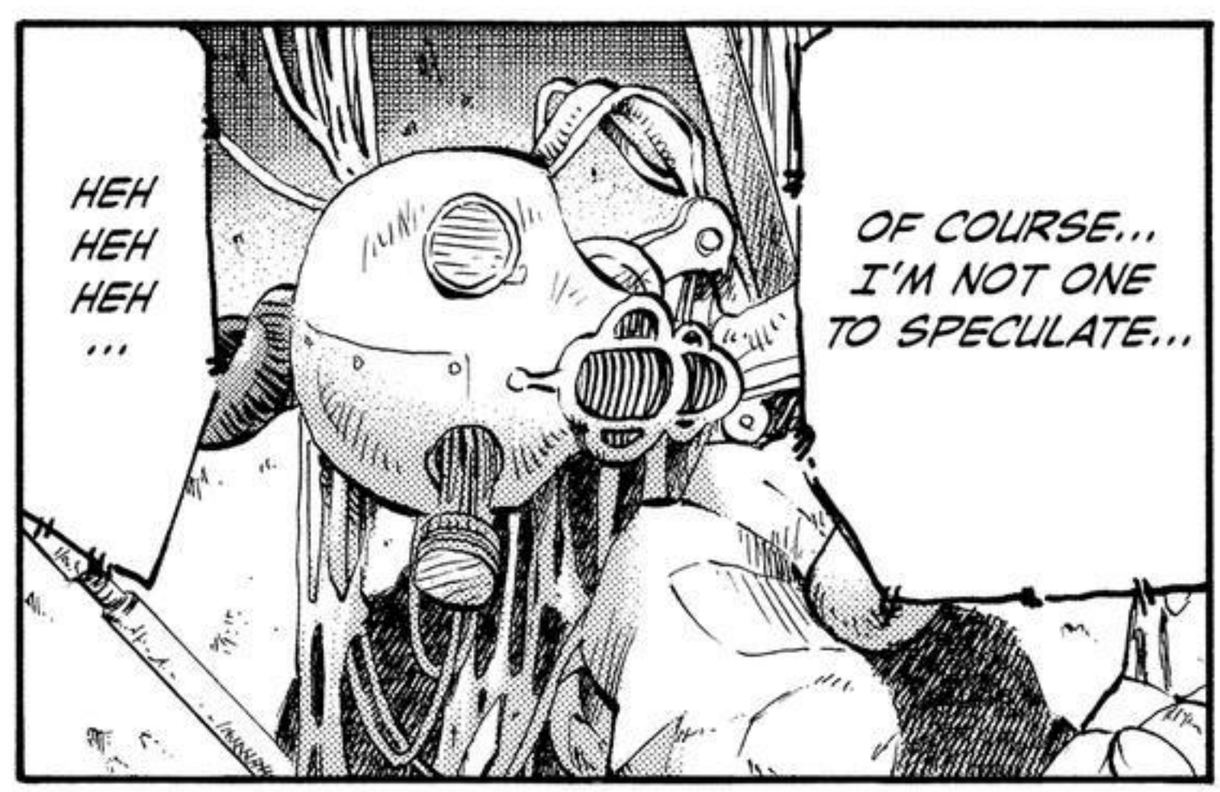

HE HAS A BRAIN BEHIND HIM, YOU KNOW...
YES. THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF THRACIA...

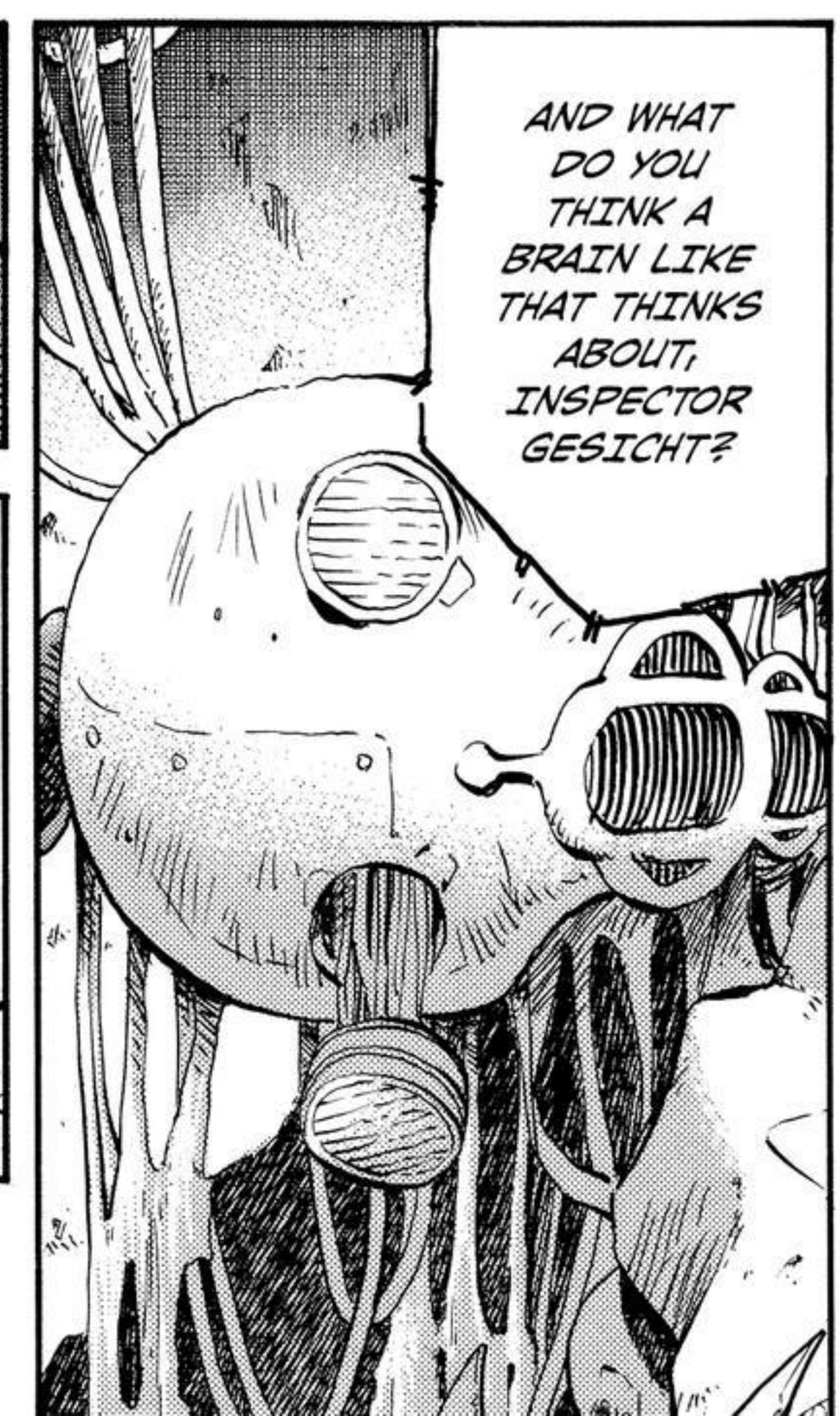
I SEE THE PRESIDENT WAS RE-ELECTED ...
THE PRESIDENT?

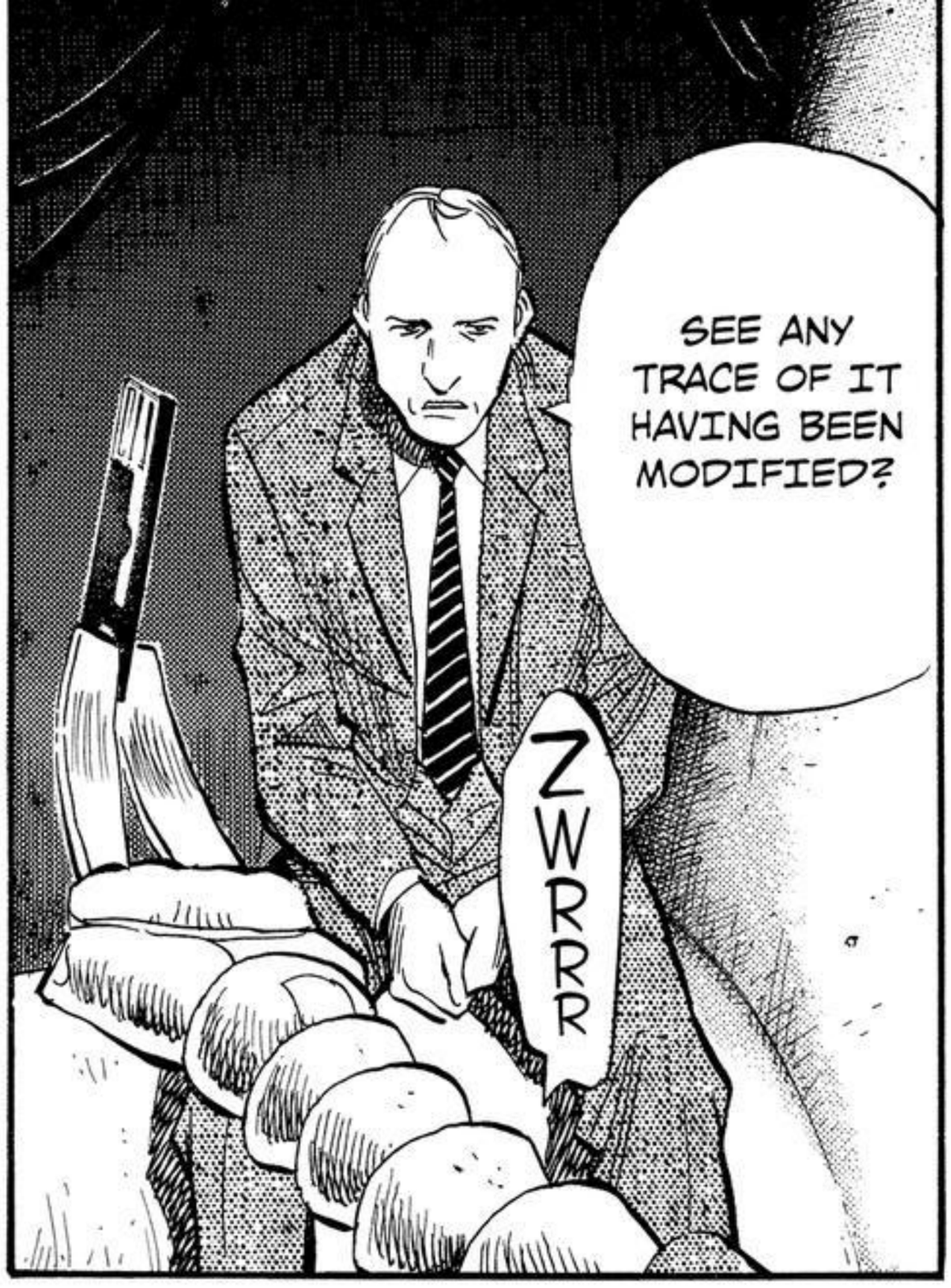

HEH HEH HEH ...
LITERALLY ARTIFICIAL INTELLI-GENCE...


IT CAN'T MOVE... IT CAN ONLY SIT IN ONE SPOT...
BZZT
BUT POWERFUL AS THAT BRAIN IS...
BZZRT

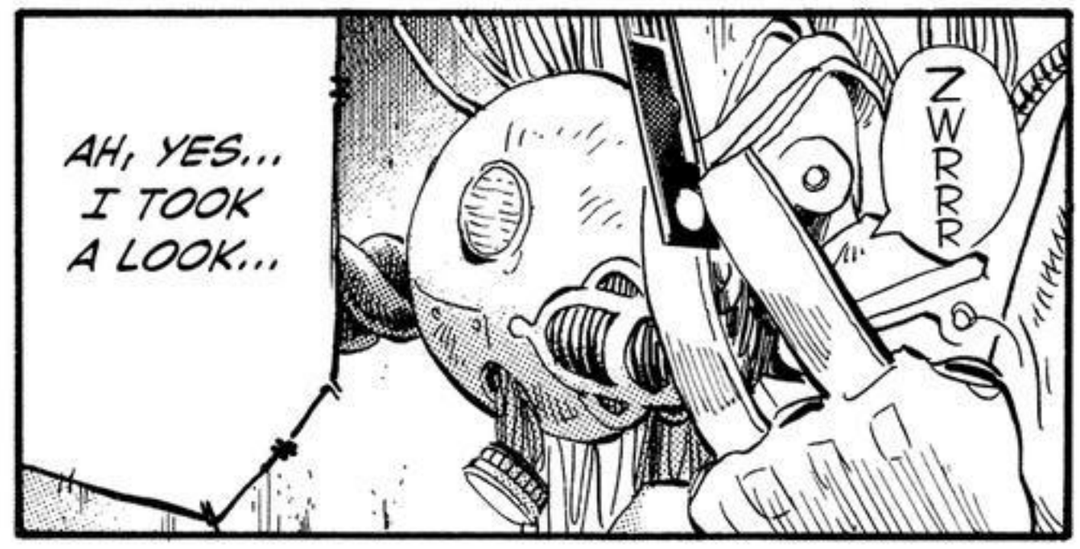

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THAT?
BZZT
...WITH A PROCESSING CAPACITY MANY THOUSANDS OF TIMES GREATER THAN OURS...


HEH HEH HEH ...
OF COURSE... I'M NOT ONE TO SPECULATE...

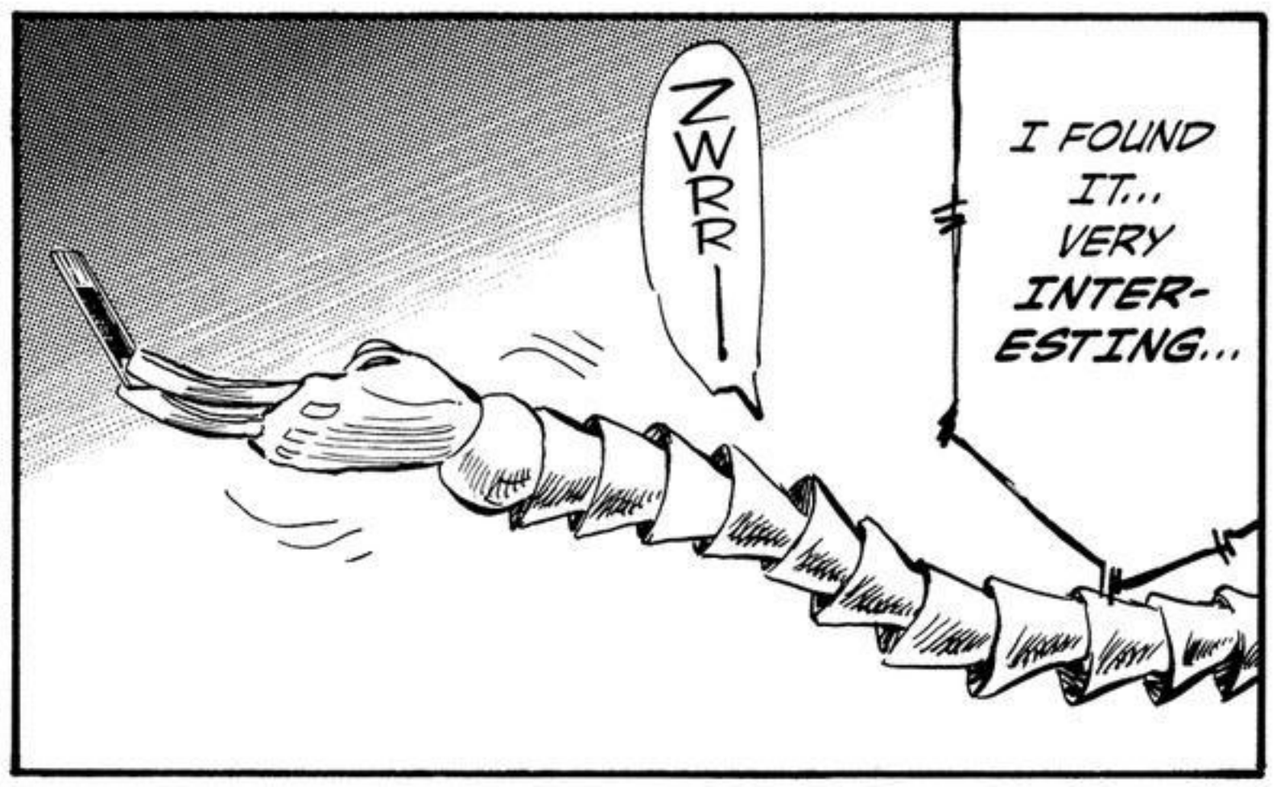

AND WHAT DO YOU THINK A BRAIN LIKE THAT THINKS ABOUT, INSPECTOR GESICHT?


SEE ANY TRACE OF IT HAVING BEEN MODIFIED?
ZWRRR

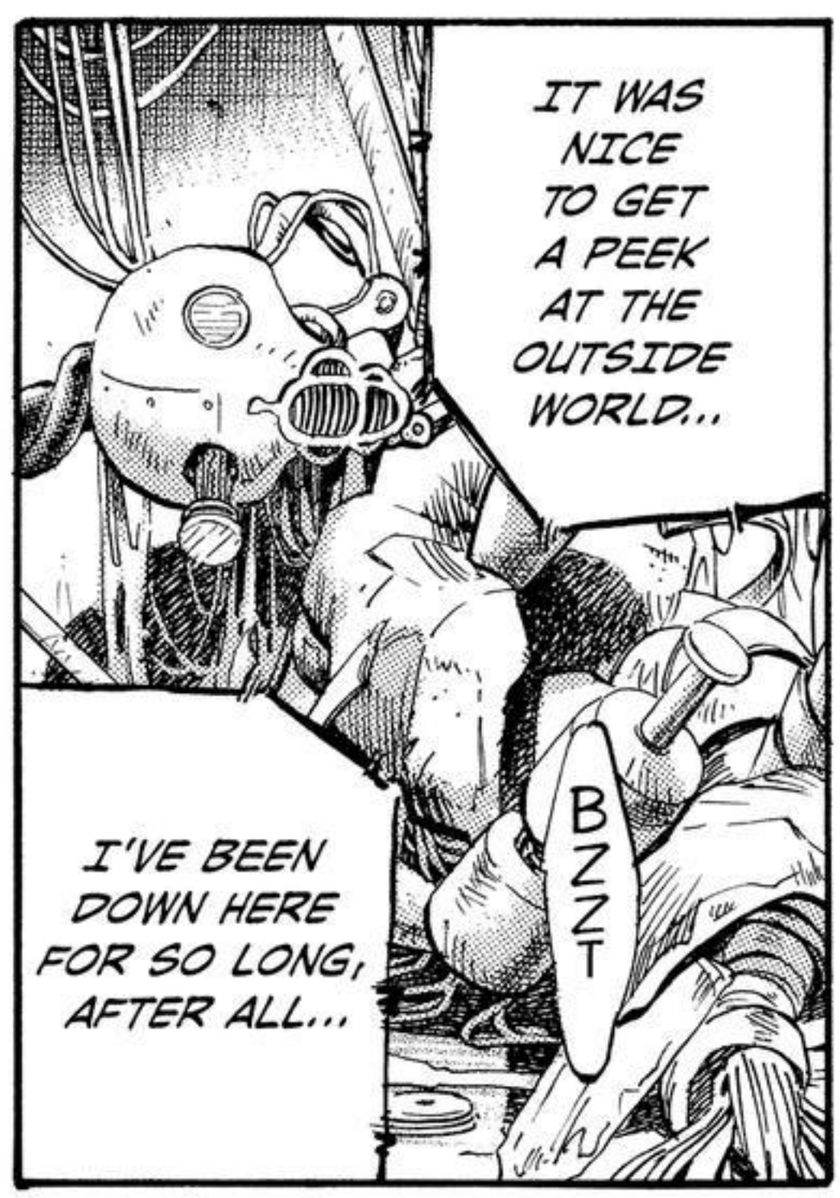
ACTUALLY, I'M MORE INTERESTED IN MY MEMORY CHIP...

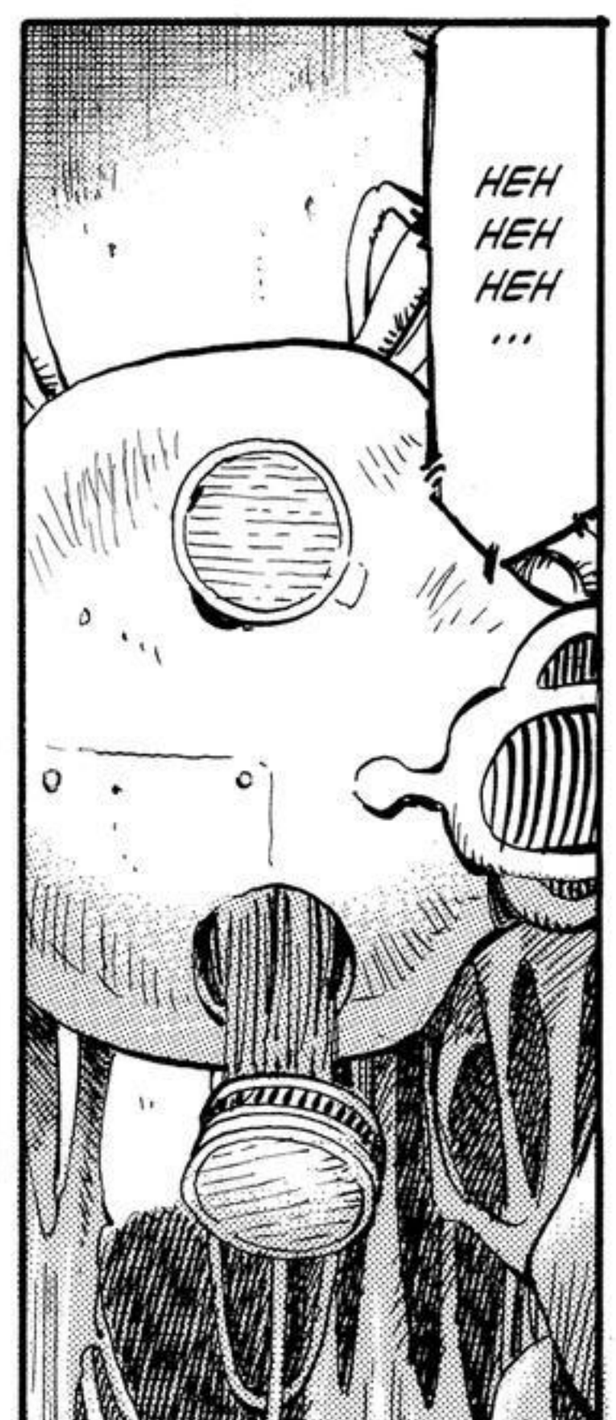

AH, YES... I TOOK A LOOK...
ZWRRR

HOW SO?

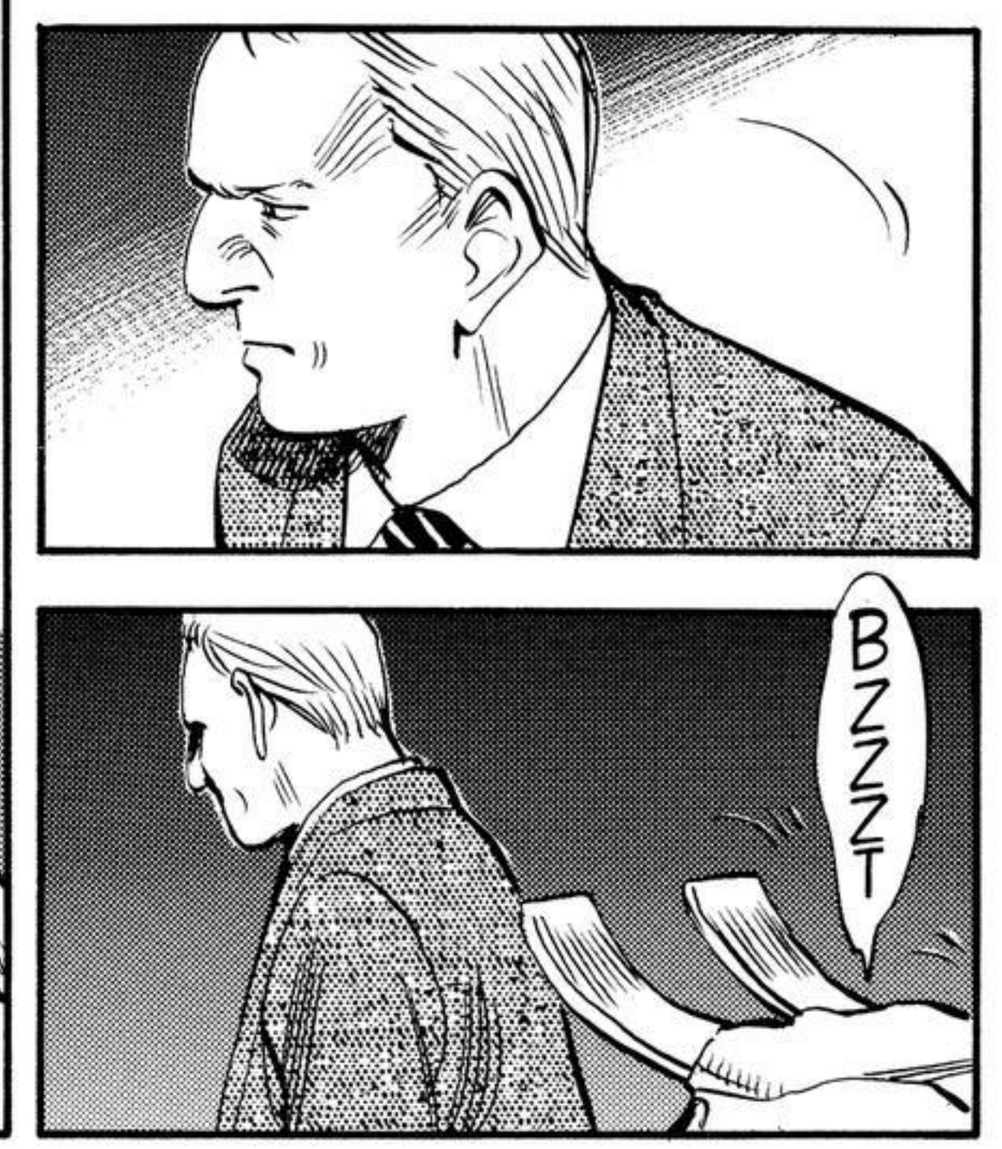

ZWRR!
I FOUND IT... VERY INTER-ESTING...

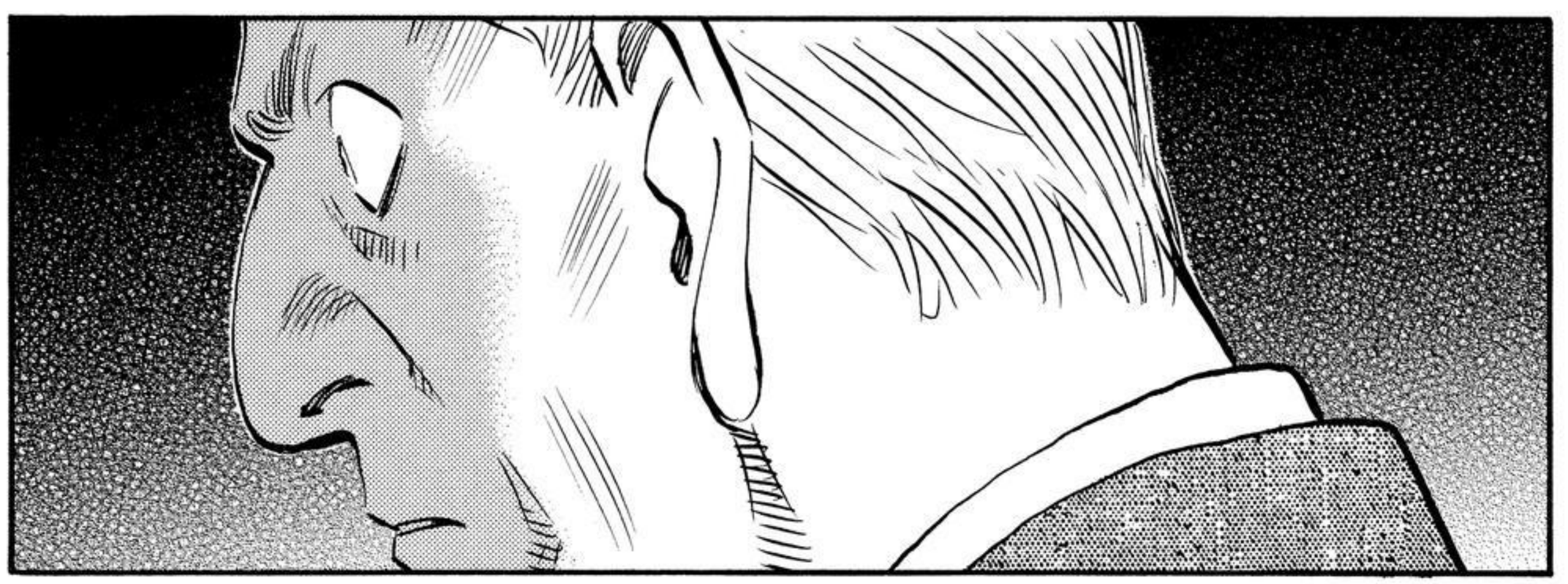
HMPH...
SO MY COMING HERE WAS A WASTE OF TIME...?

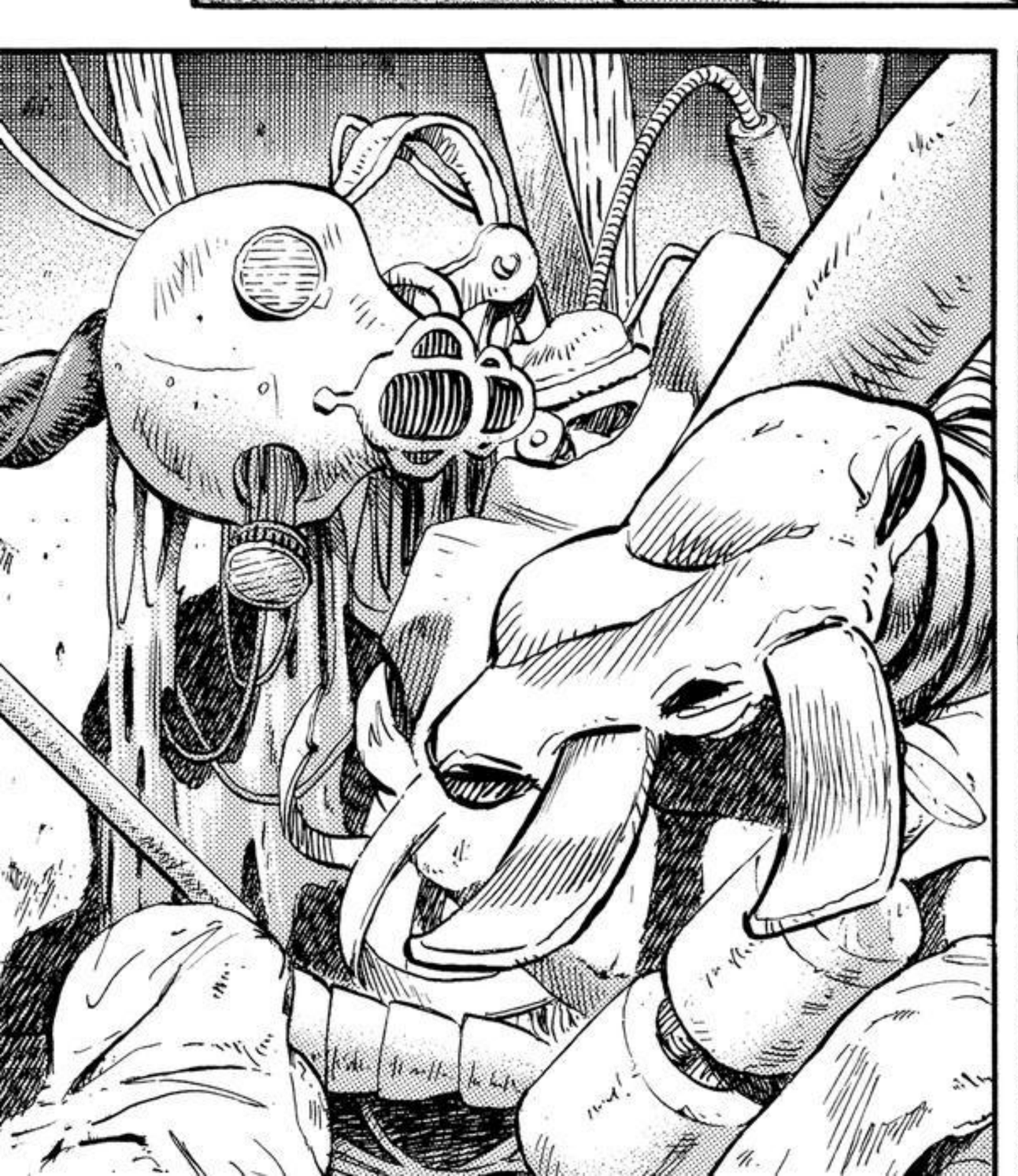

IT WAS NICE TO GET A PEEK AT THE OUTSIDE WORLD...
I'VE BEEN DOWN HERE FOR SO LONG, AFTER ALL...
BZZZT

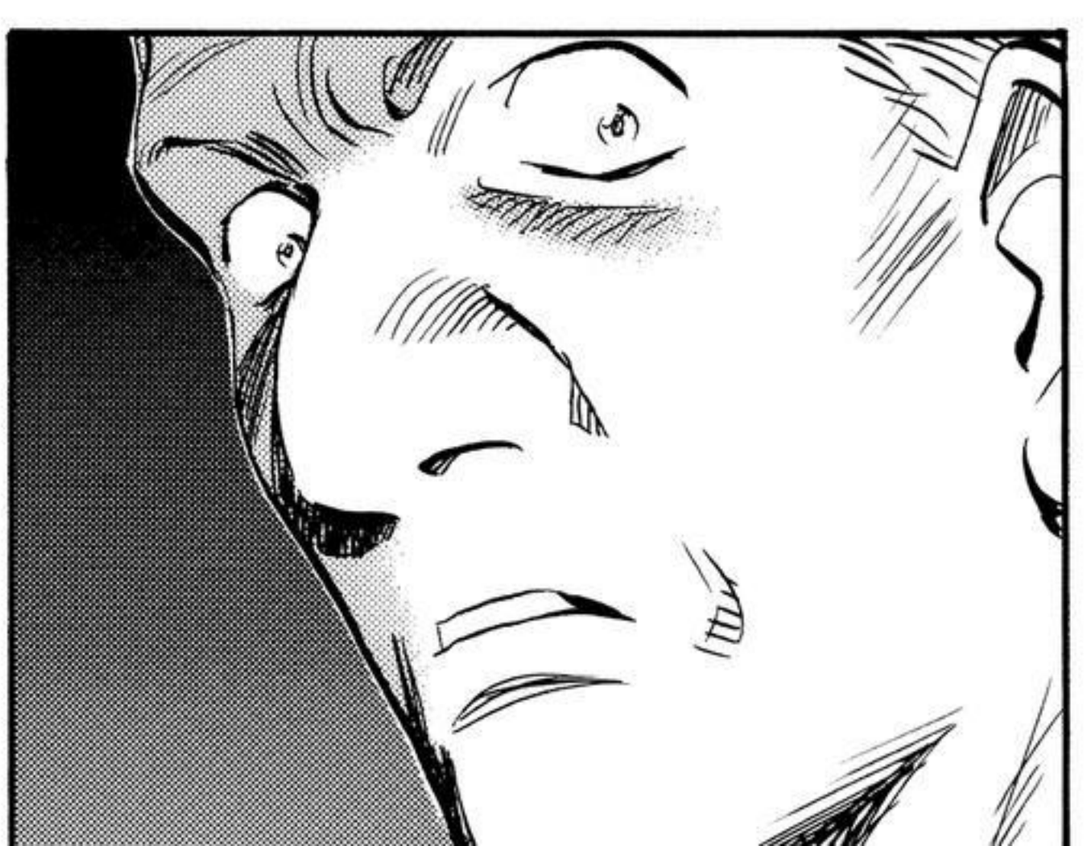

HEH HEH HEH ...

500 ZEUS A BODY!

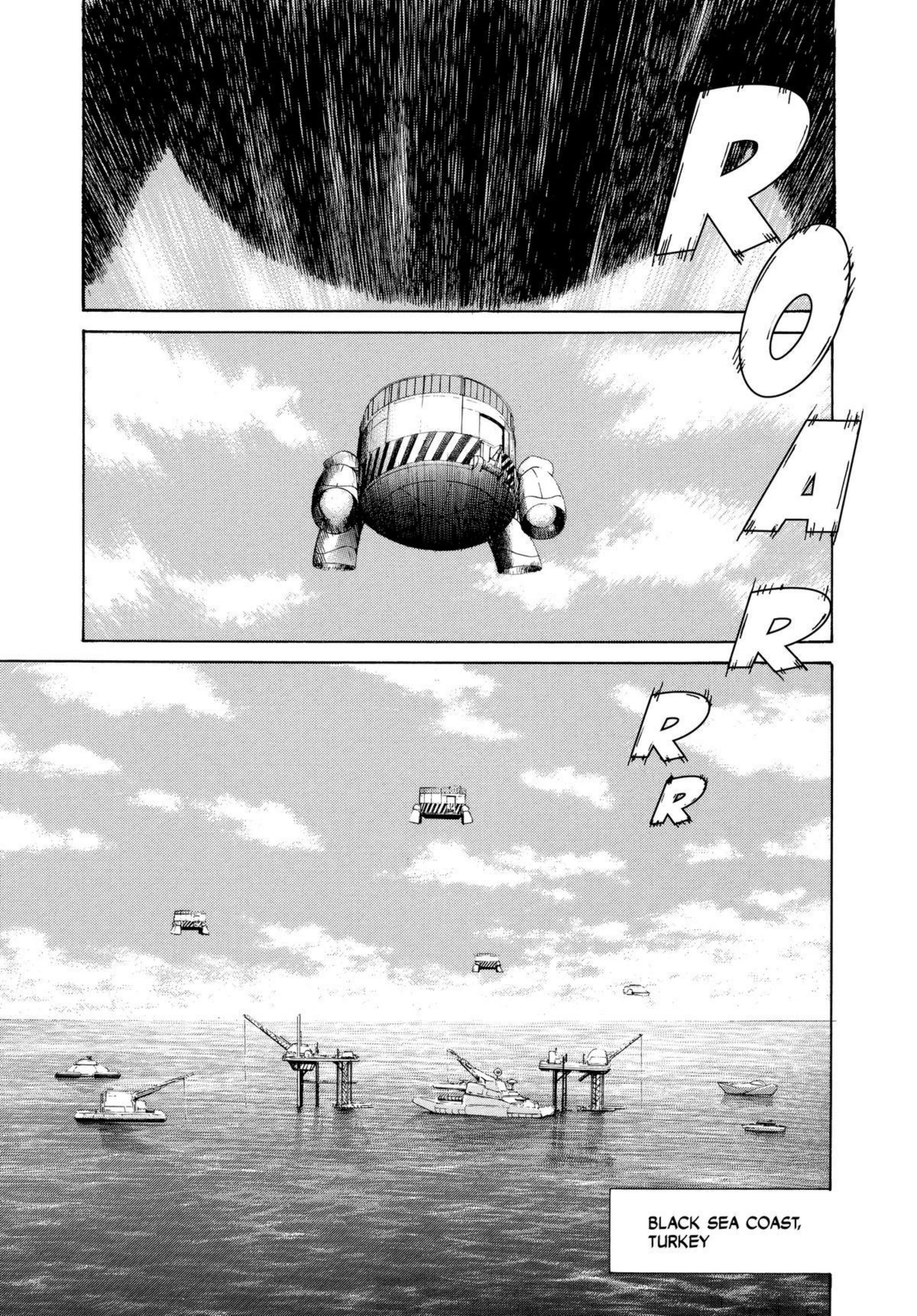

BZZZT





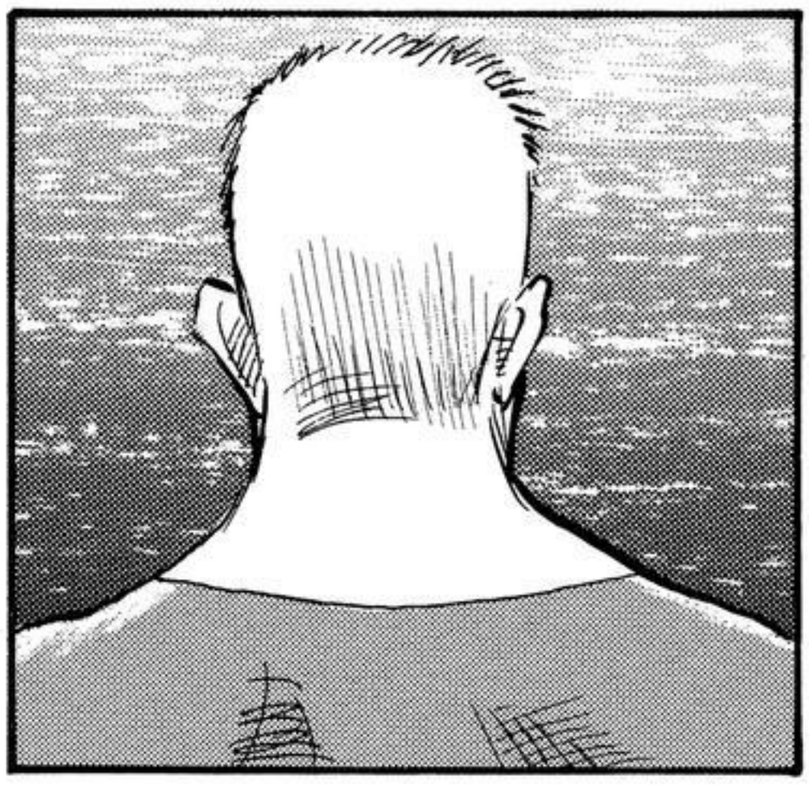


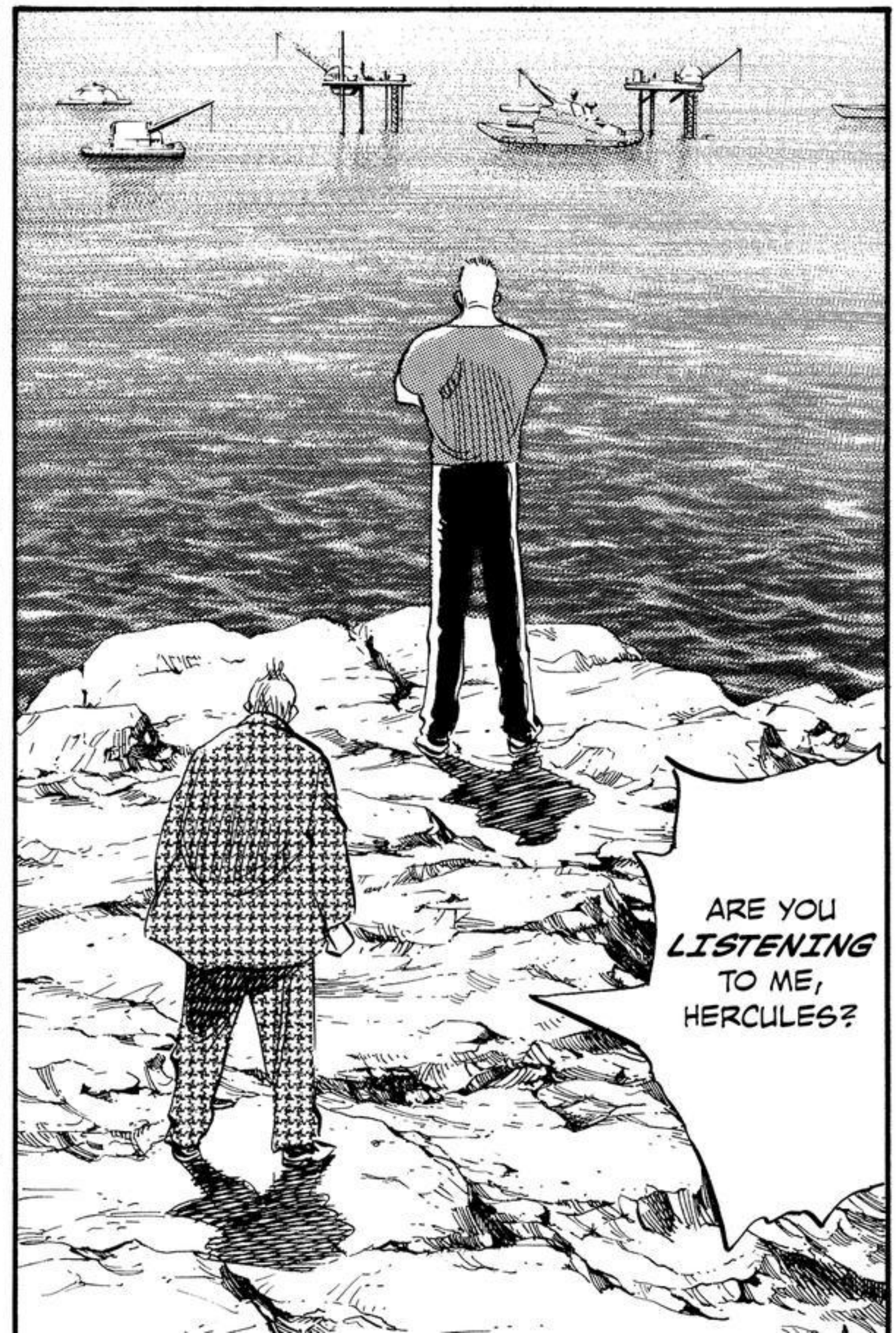
500 ZEUS A BODY.
HEH HEH HEH HEH HEH!
Act 15
ENEMY PARTS

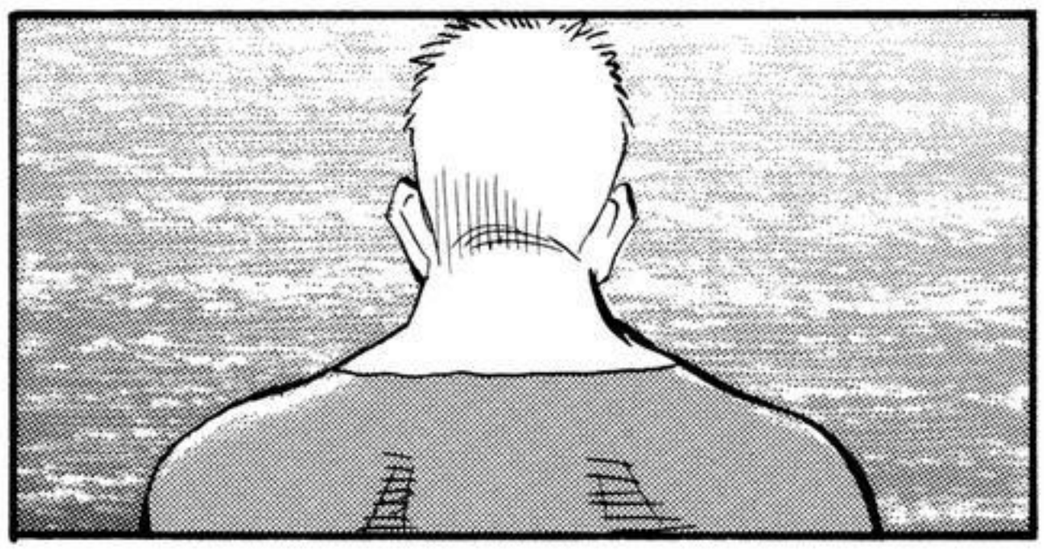

ROARR
BLACK SEA COAST,
TURKEY

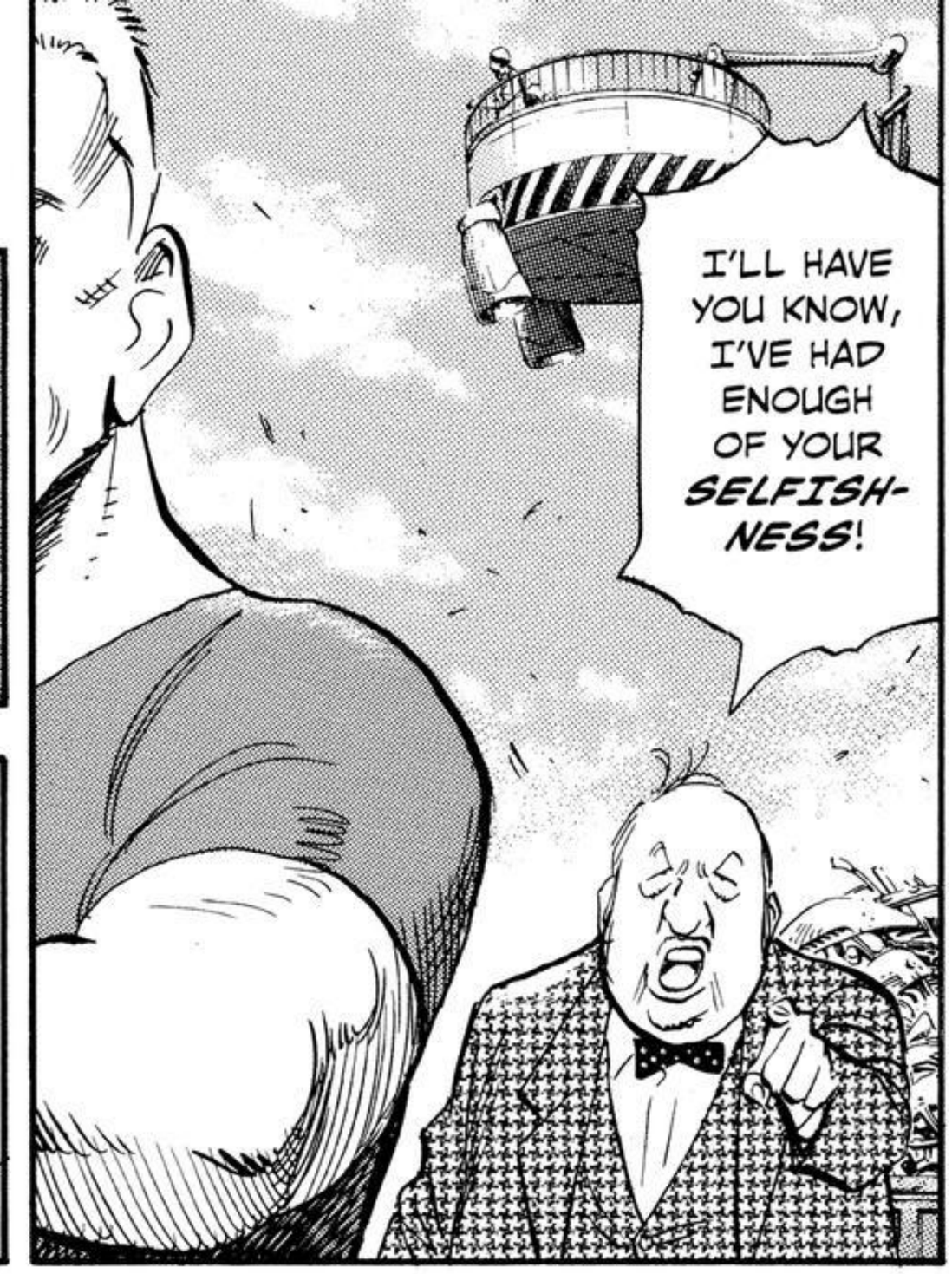
THE DEADLINE FOR YOU TO DEFEND YOUR TITLE WILL EXPIRE SOON!

JUST HOW LONG ARE YOU GOING TO LET THIS GO ON?!





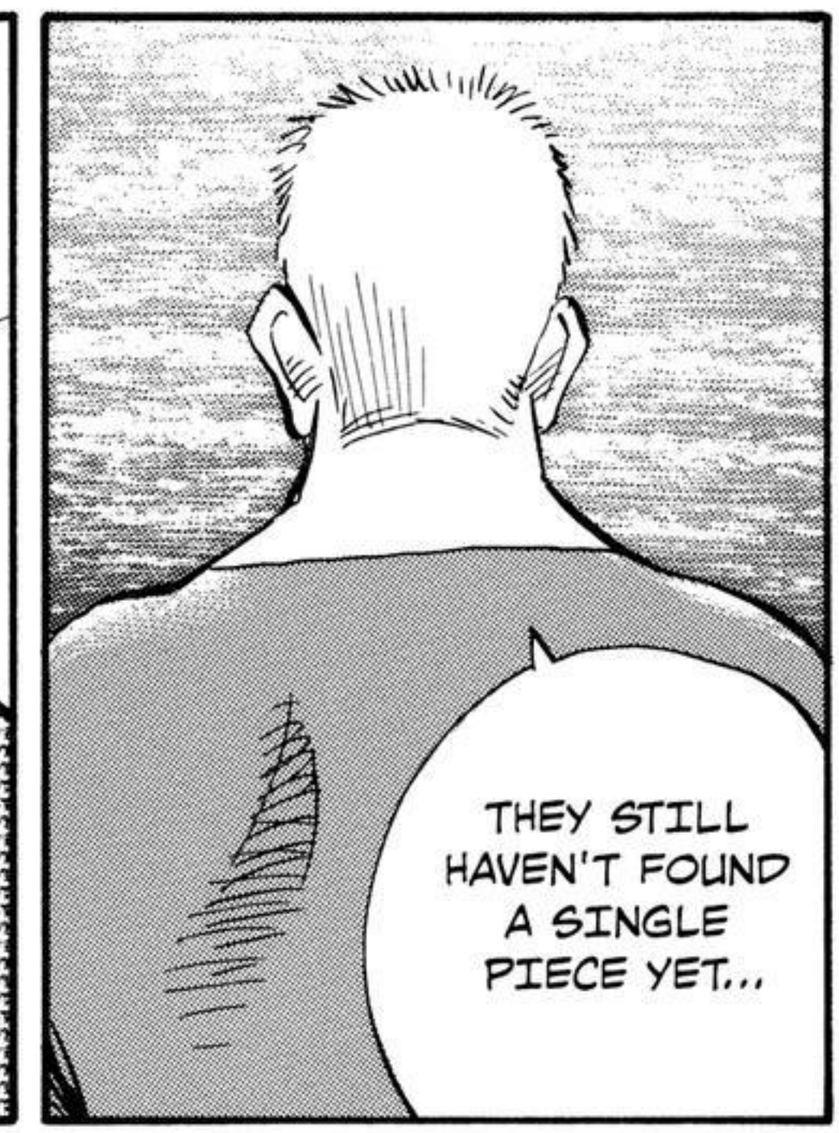



I'LL HAVE YOU KNOW, I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF YOUR *SELFISH-NESS*!

...I'LL SUE YOU FOR *BREACH OF CONTRACT*!
IF YOU DON'T RETURN TO THE RING...

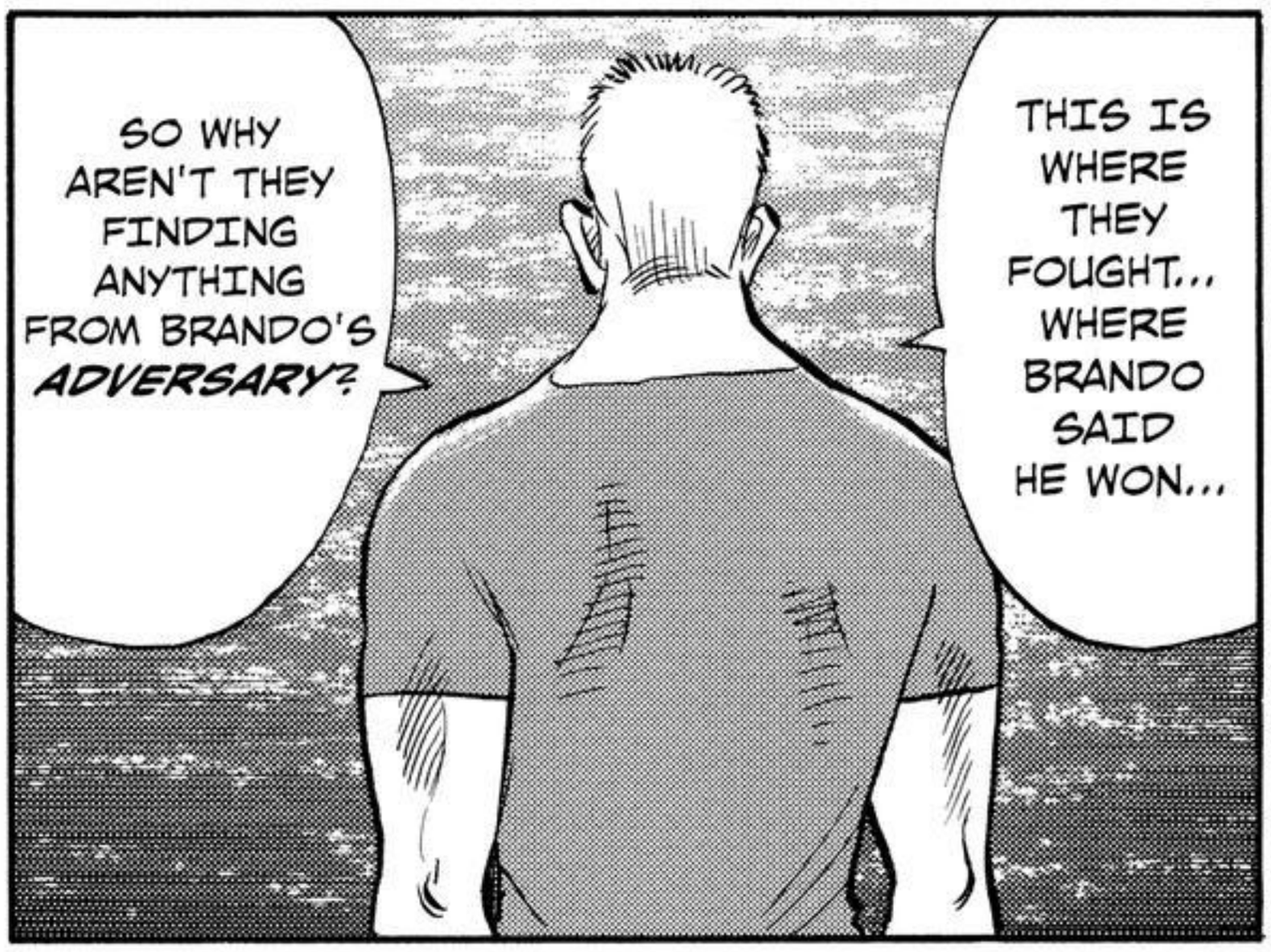
PRINTED OUT, IT'S A SHEAF *THIS THICK*, HERCULES!!!
IF YOU WANT, I'LL SHOW YOU... EACH AND EVERY ONE OF THOSE BINDING CLAUSES!!

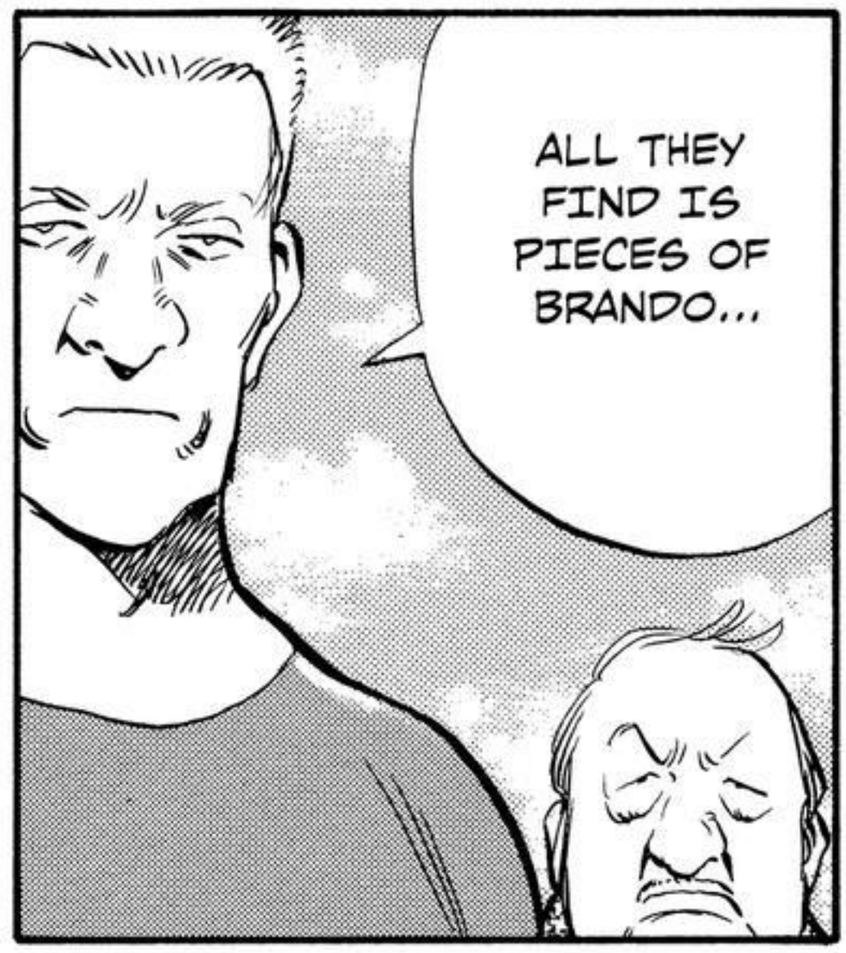
WHAT ?!

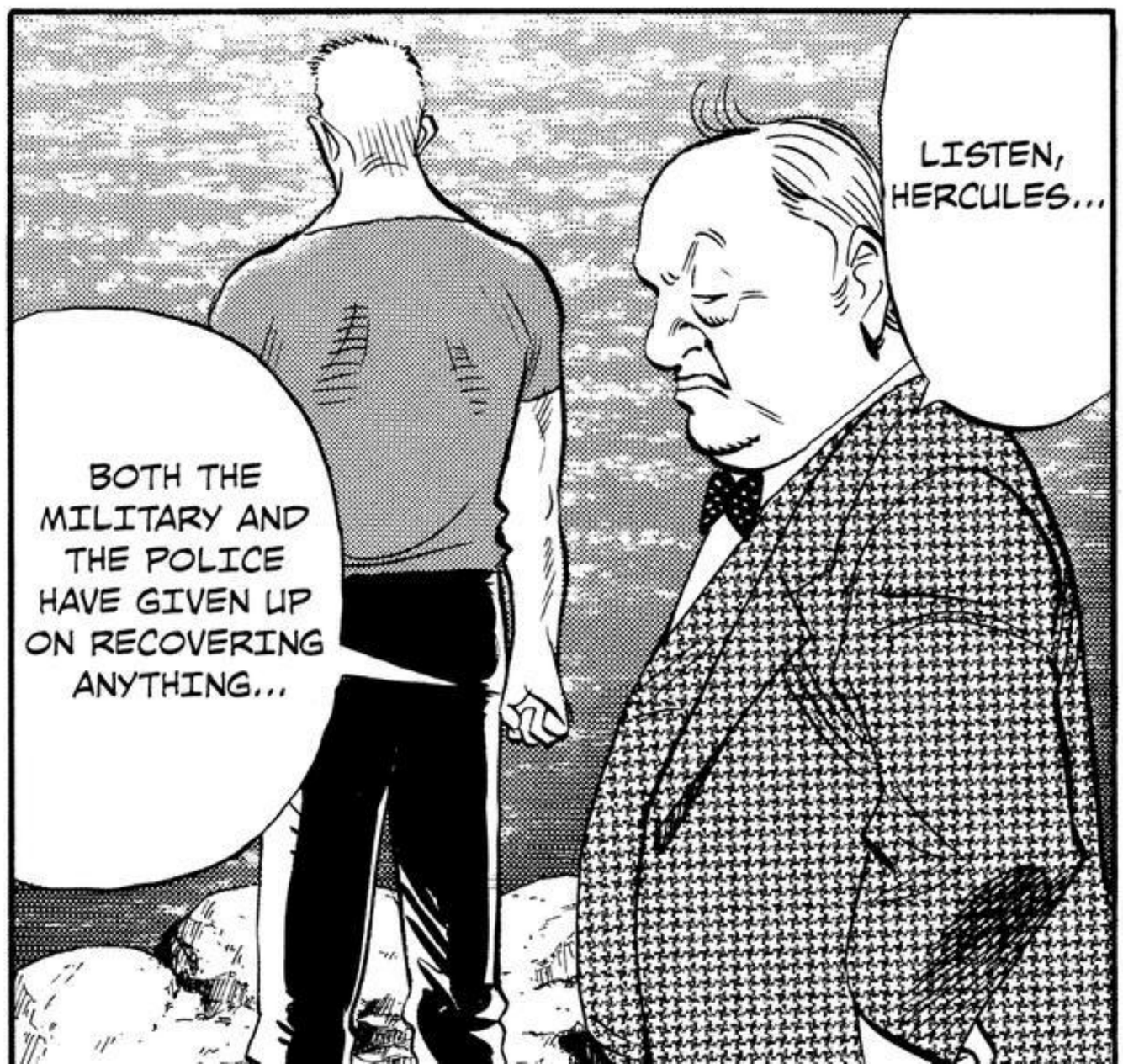

THEY STILL HAVEN'T FOUND A SINGLE PIECE YET...

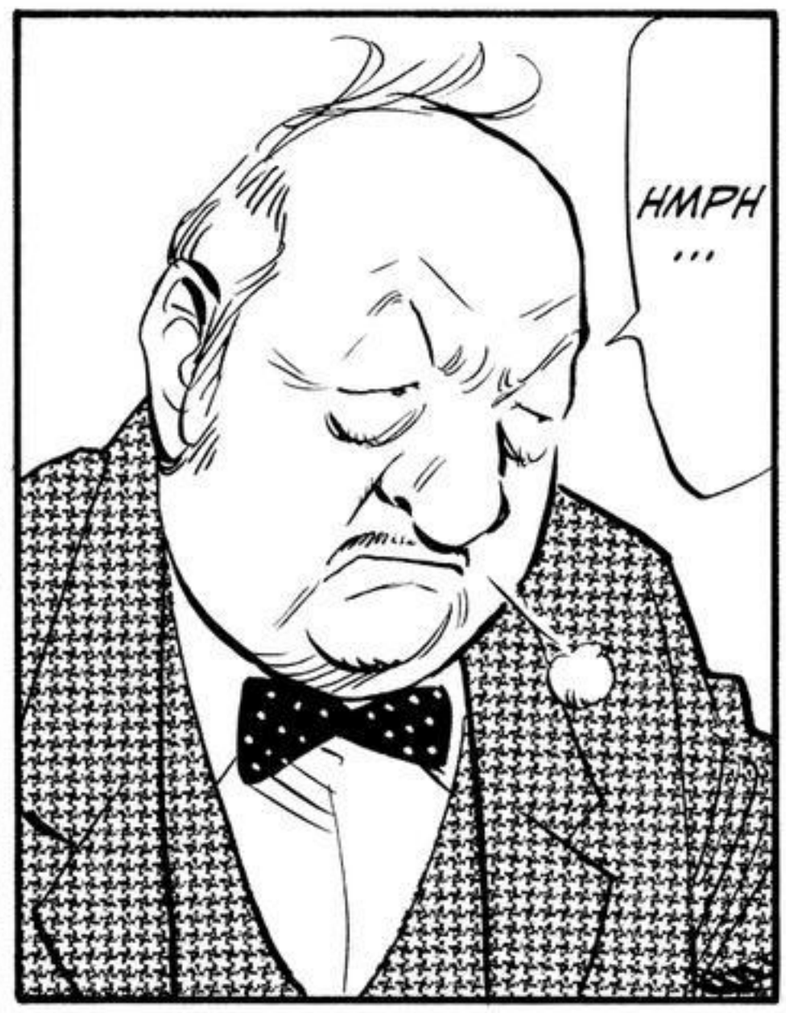
DON'T TAKE ME FOR A FOOL! THERE'S NO BIGGER PROMOTER THAN AL HAFT!!

THEY HAVEN'T RECOVERED A SINGLE PART OF THE KILLER.

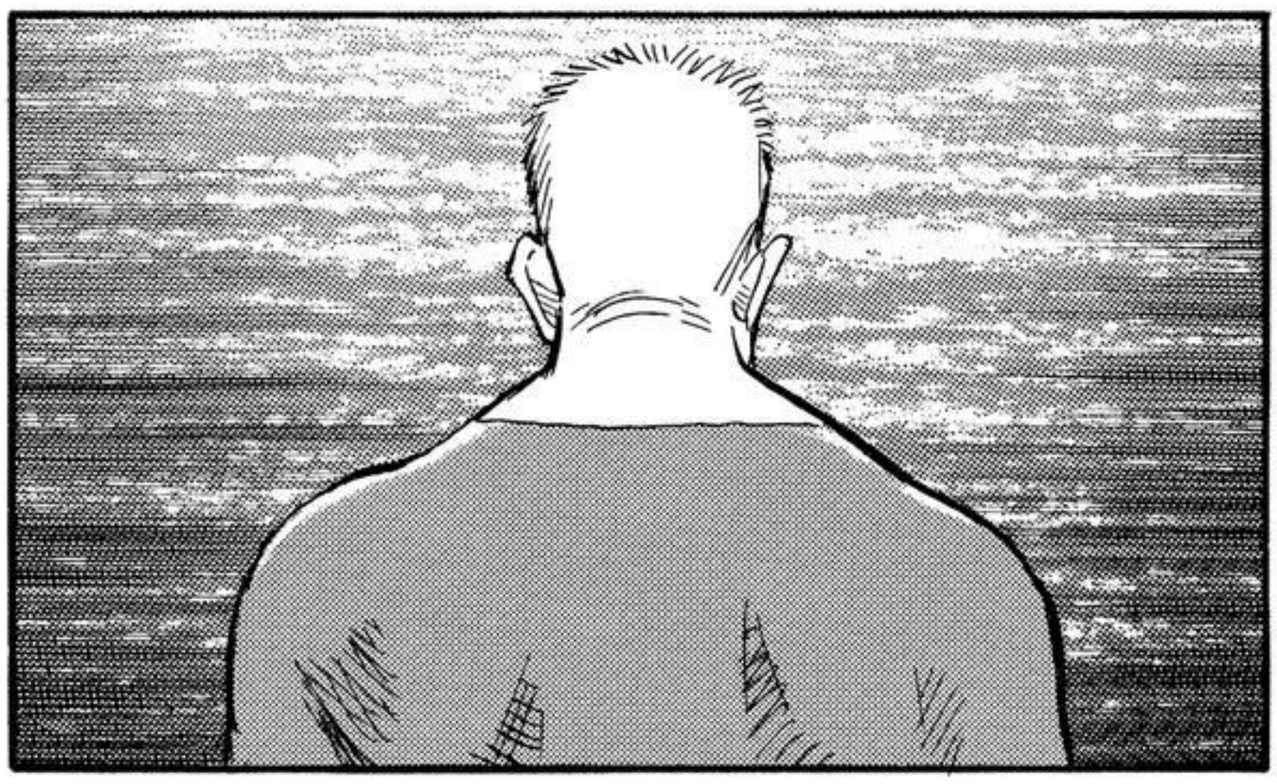


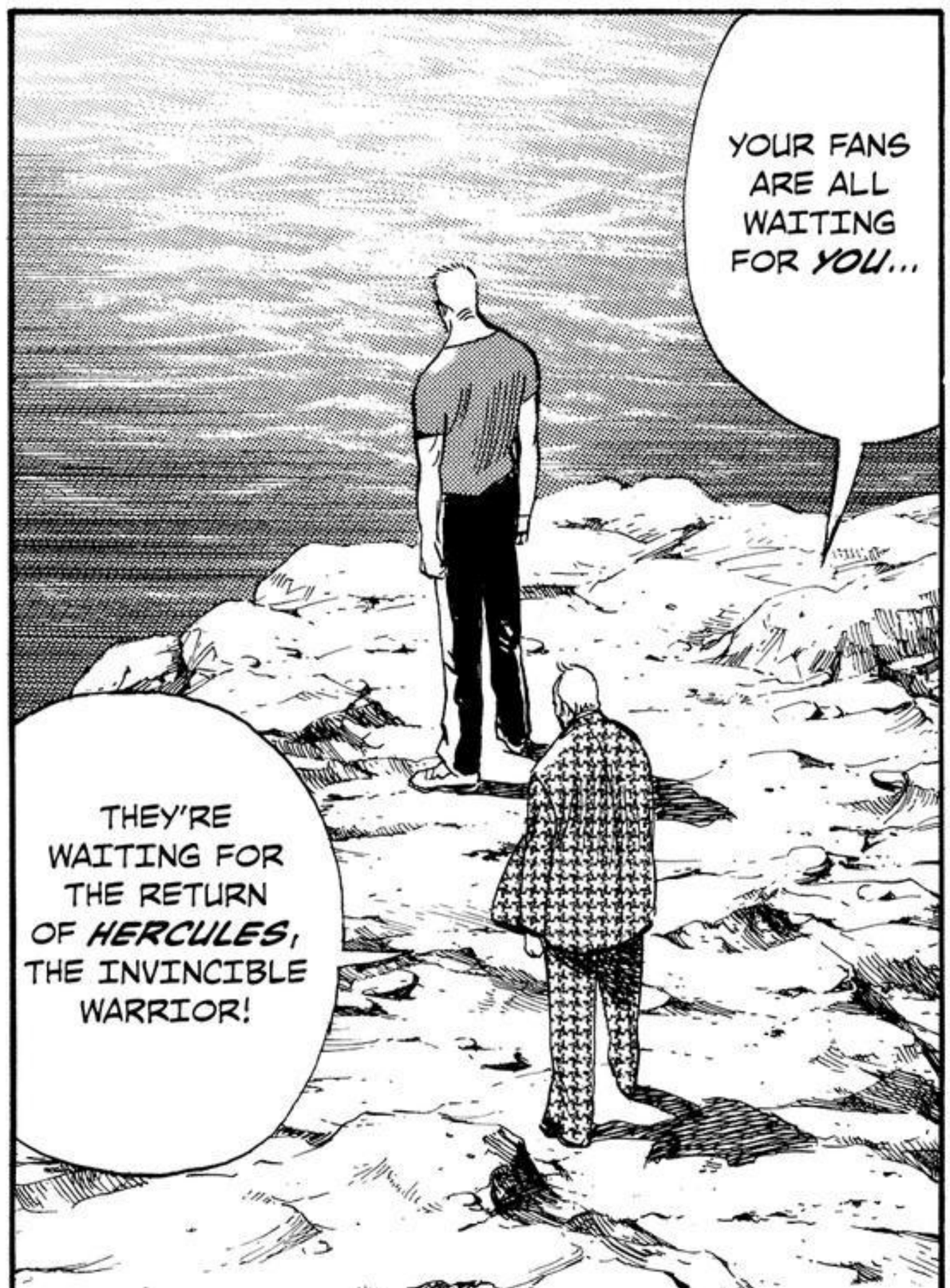


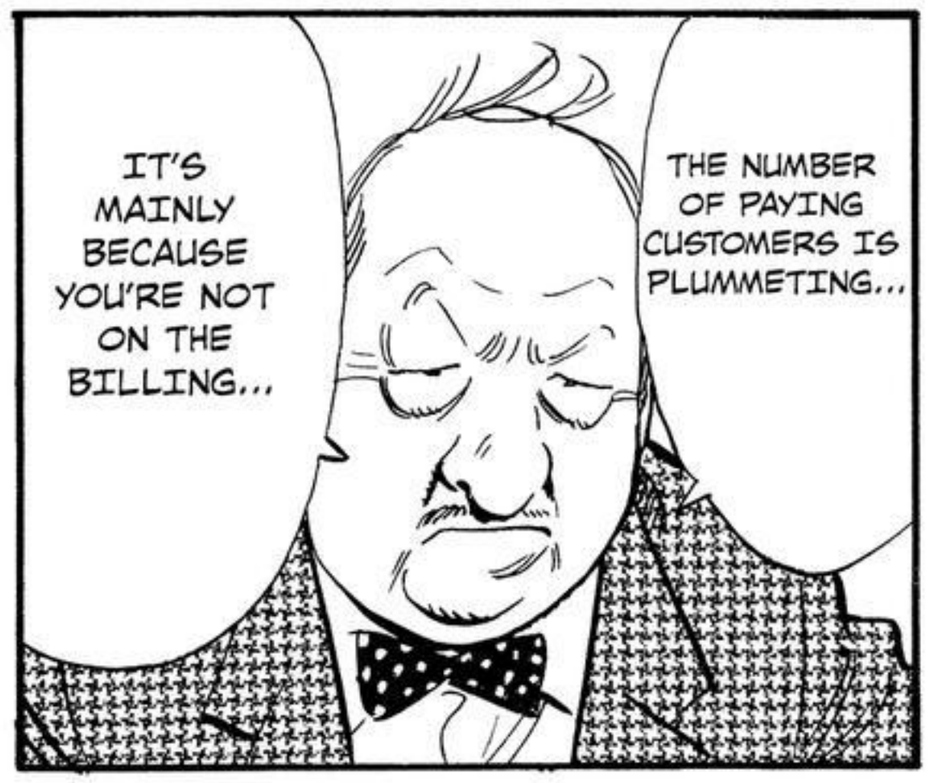


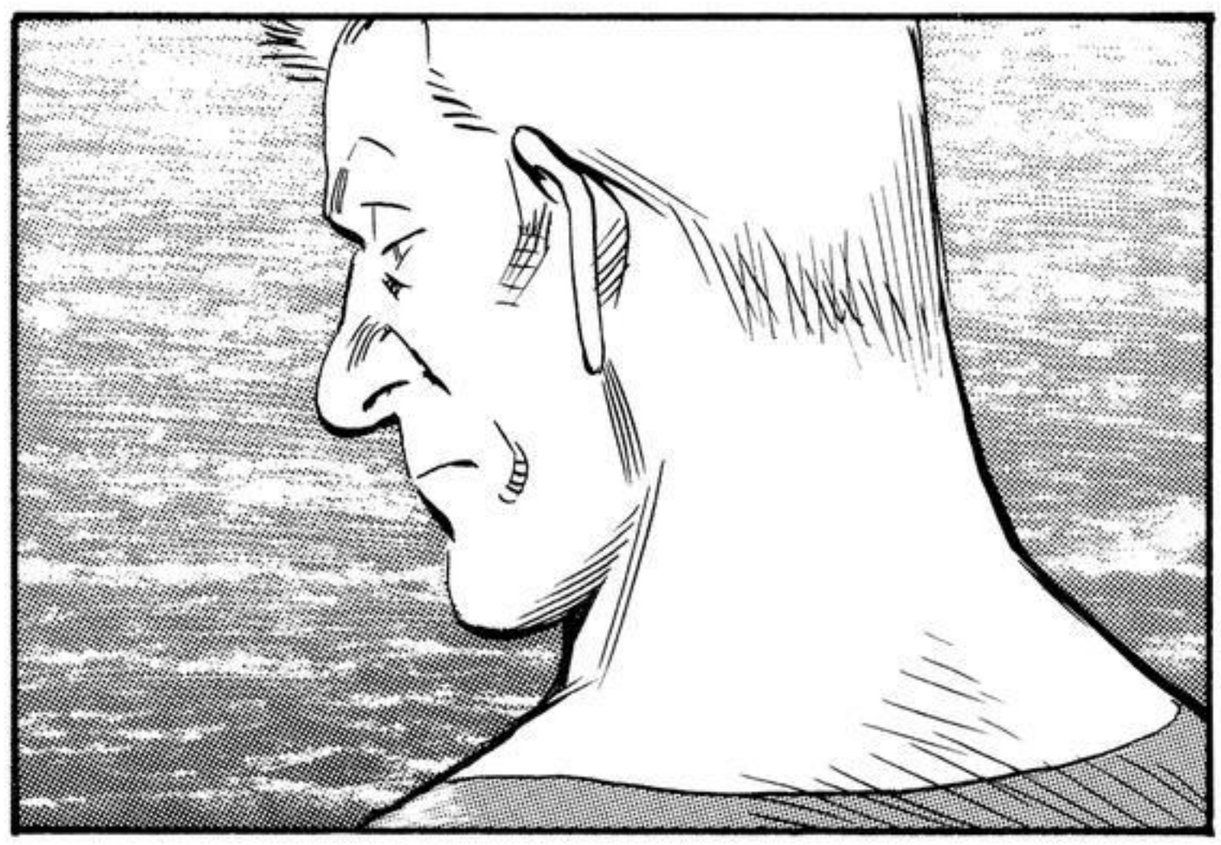


SO WHY ARE *YOU* SPENDING A FORTUNE TRYING TO RECOVER SCRAP METAL...?

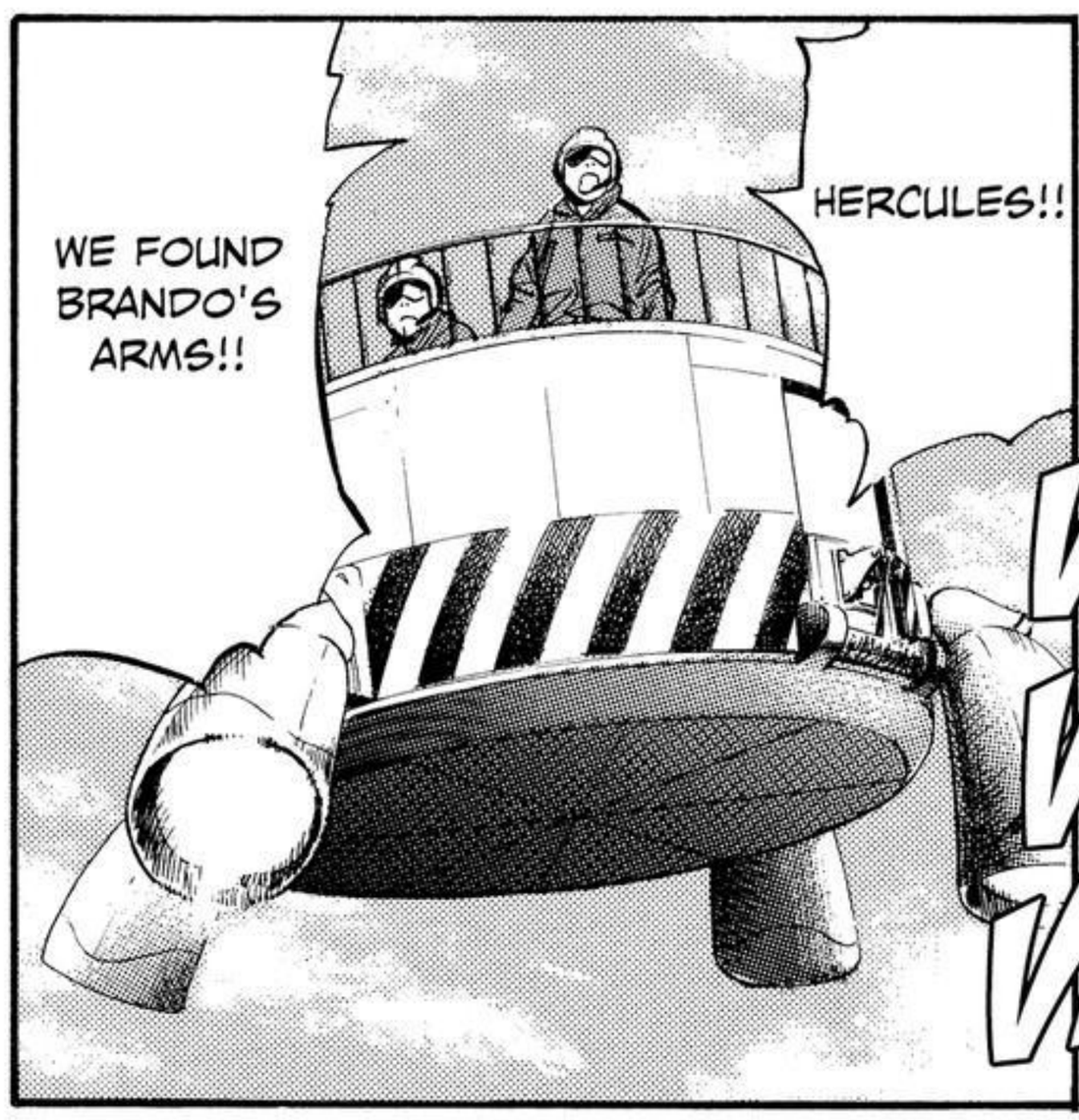




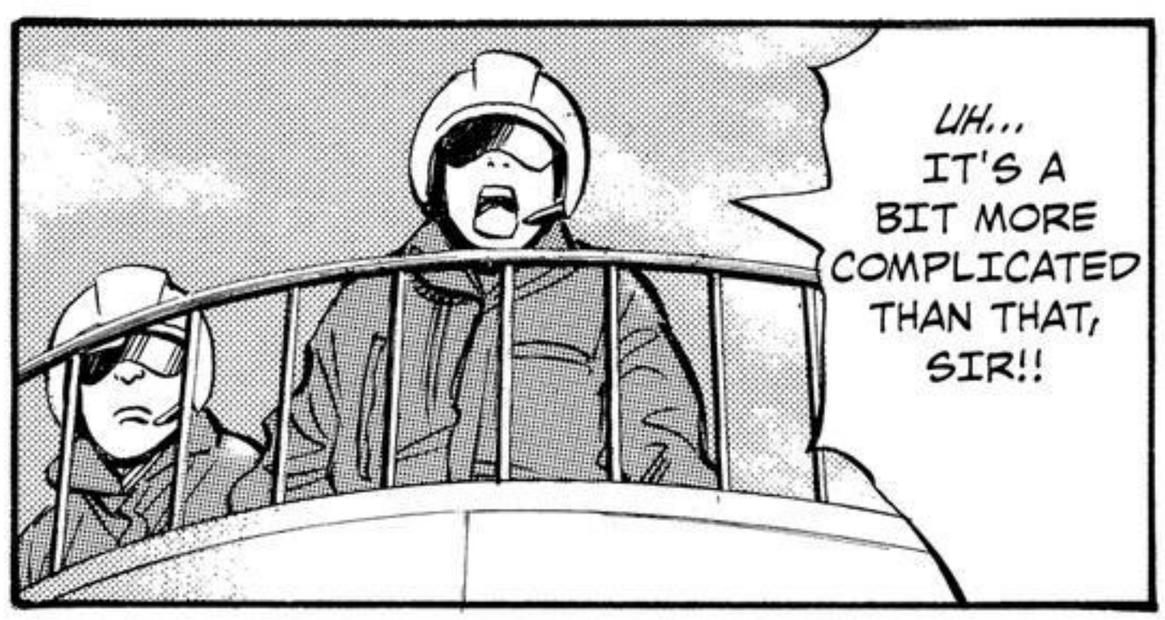




AND SO AM I, HERCULES ...
WE'VE MADE IT THIS FAR TOGETHER, YOU AND ME...!


WE FOUND BRANDO'S ARMS!!
HERCULES!!

I'M BEGGING YOU... PLEASE COME BACK...


UH... IT'S A BIT MORE COMPLICATED THAN THAT, SIR!!

?!

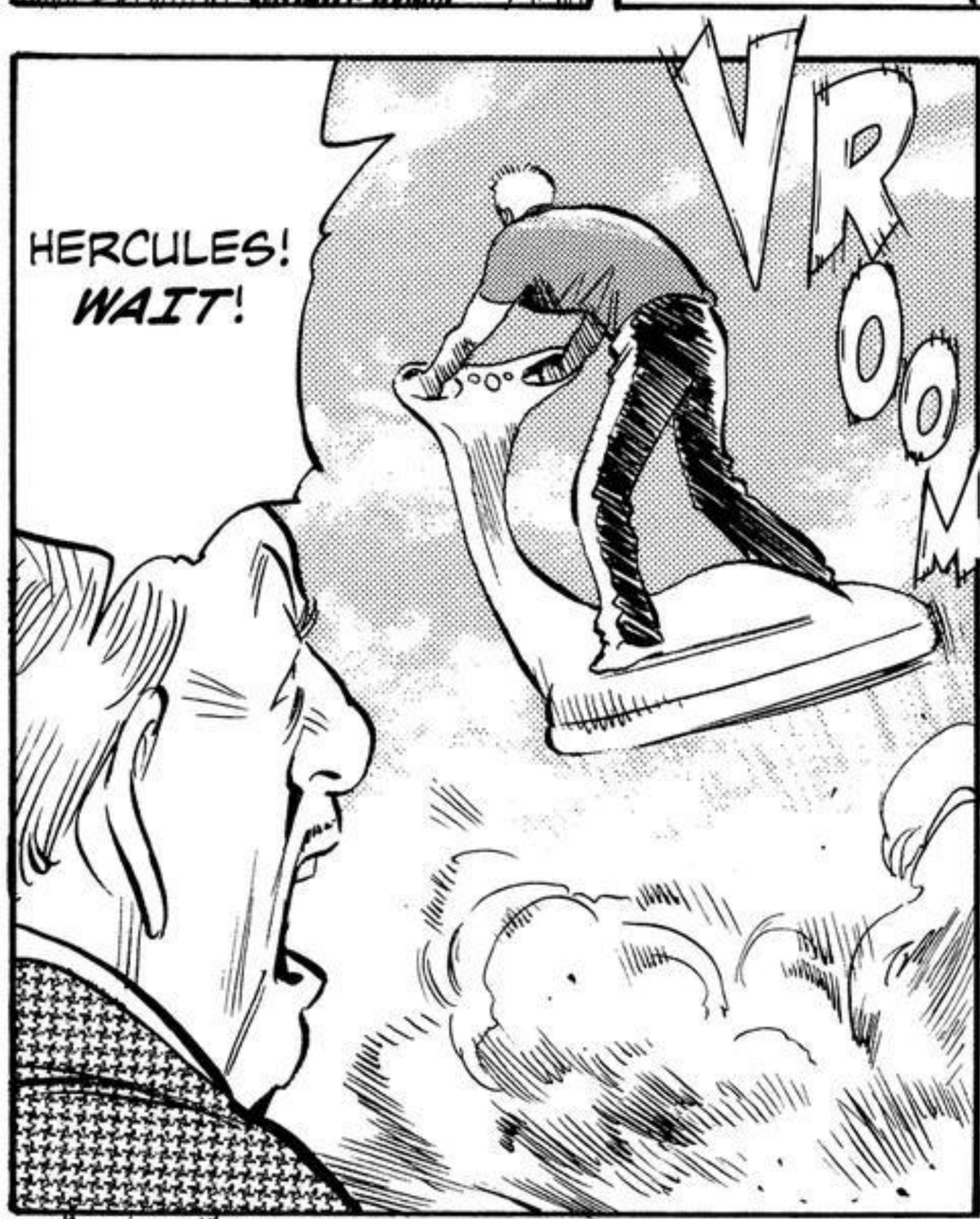
GOOD WORK! TAKE CARE BRINGING THEM UP!

HERCULES!! WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

...!!

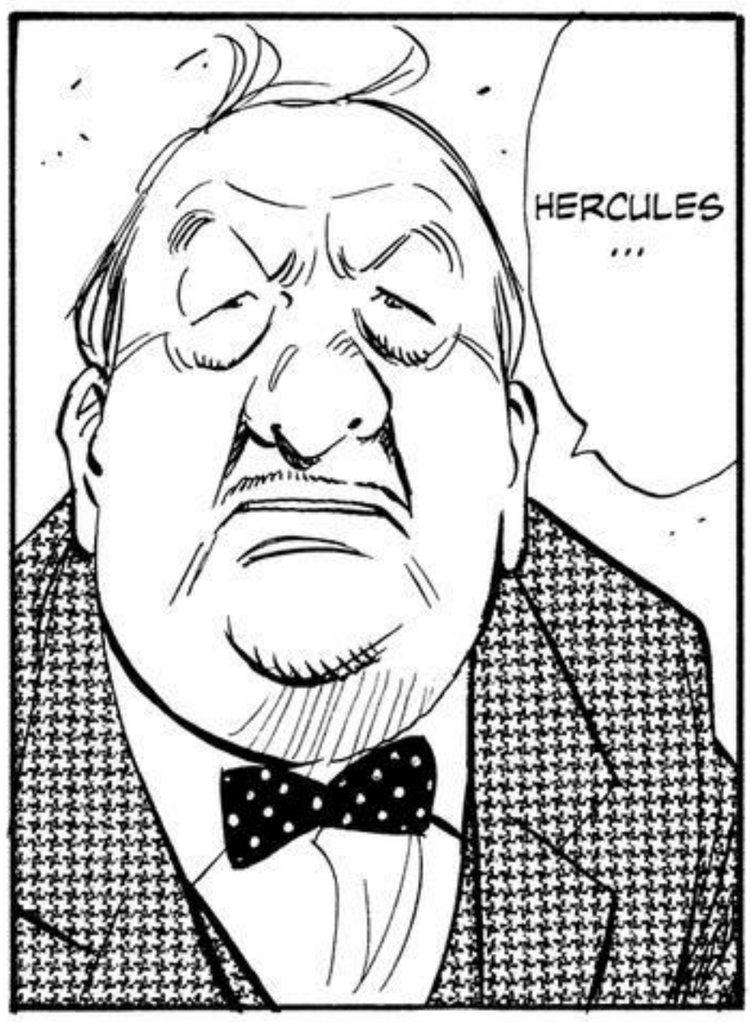
WE DIDN'T FIND THEM ON THE OCEAN FLOOR, SIR!!

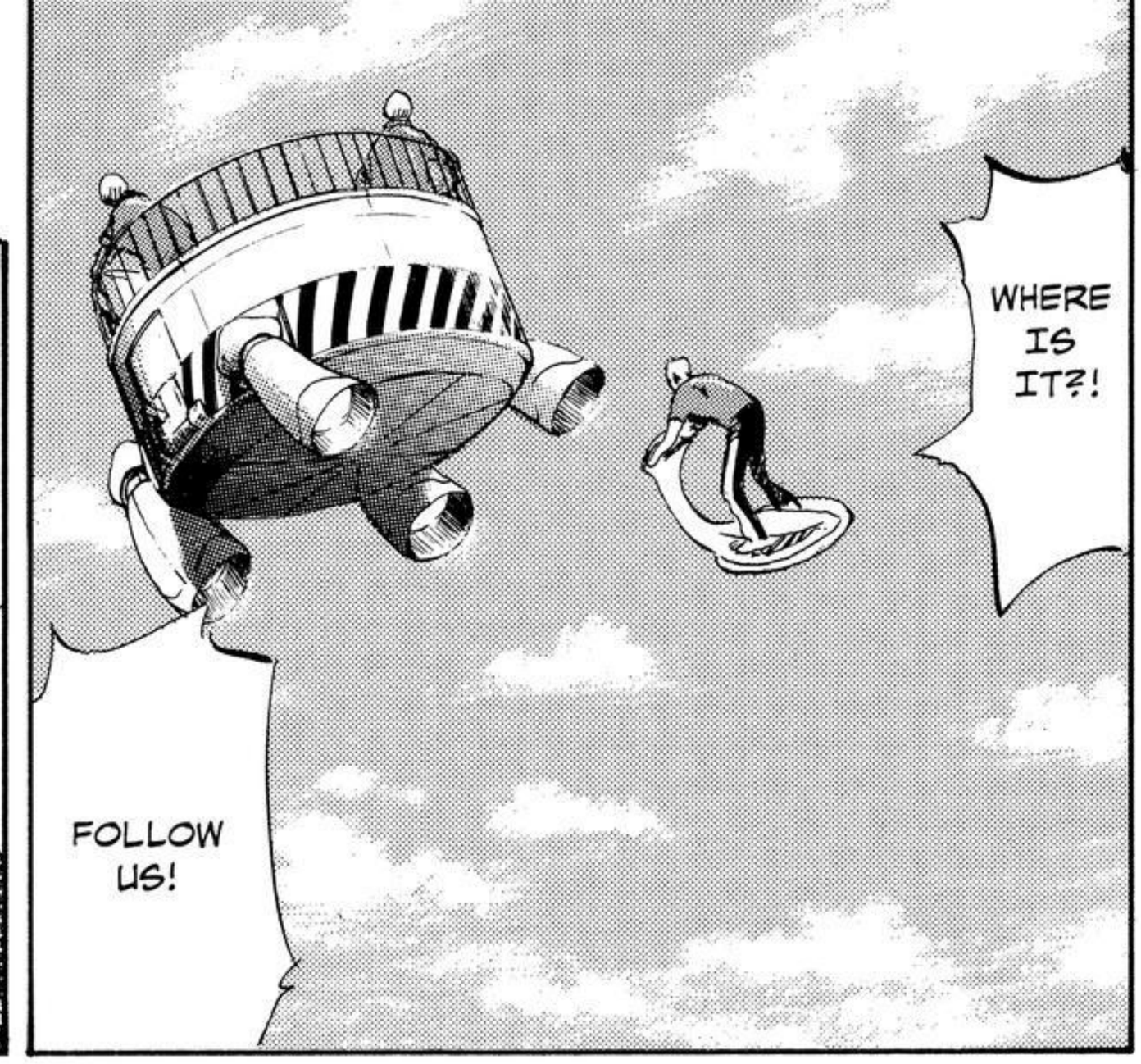
THEY'RE ON AN OUTCROP OF ROCK, 100 KILO-METERS OFFSHORE ...!!

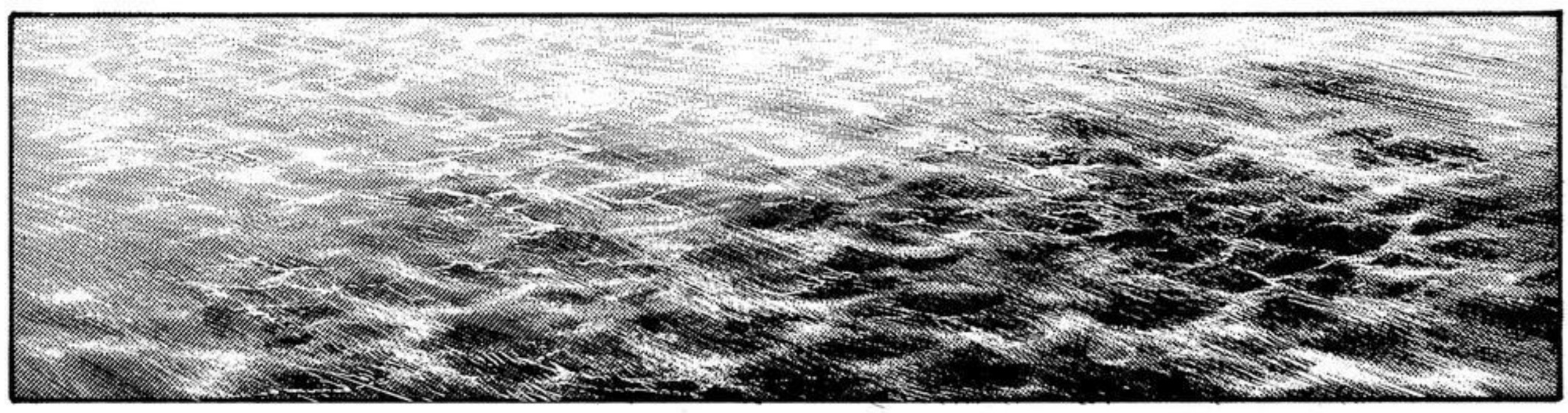

HERCULES! *WAIT*!
VROOM

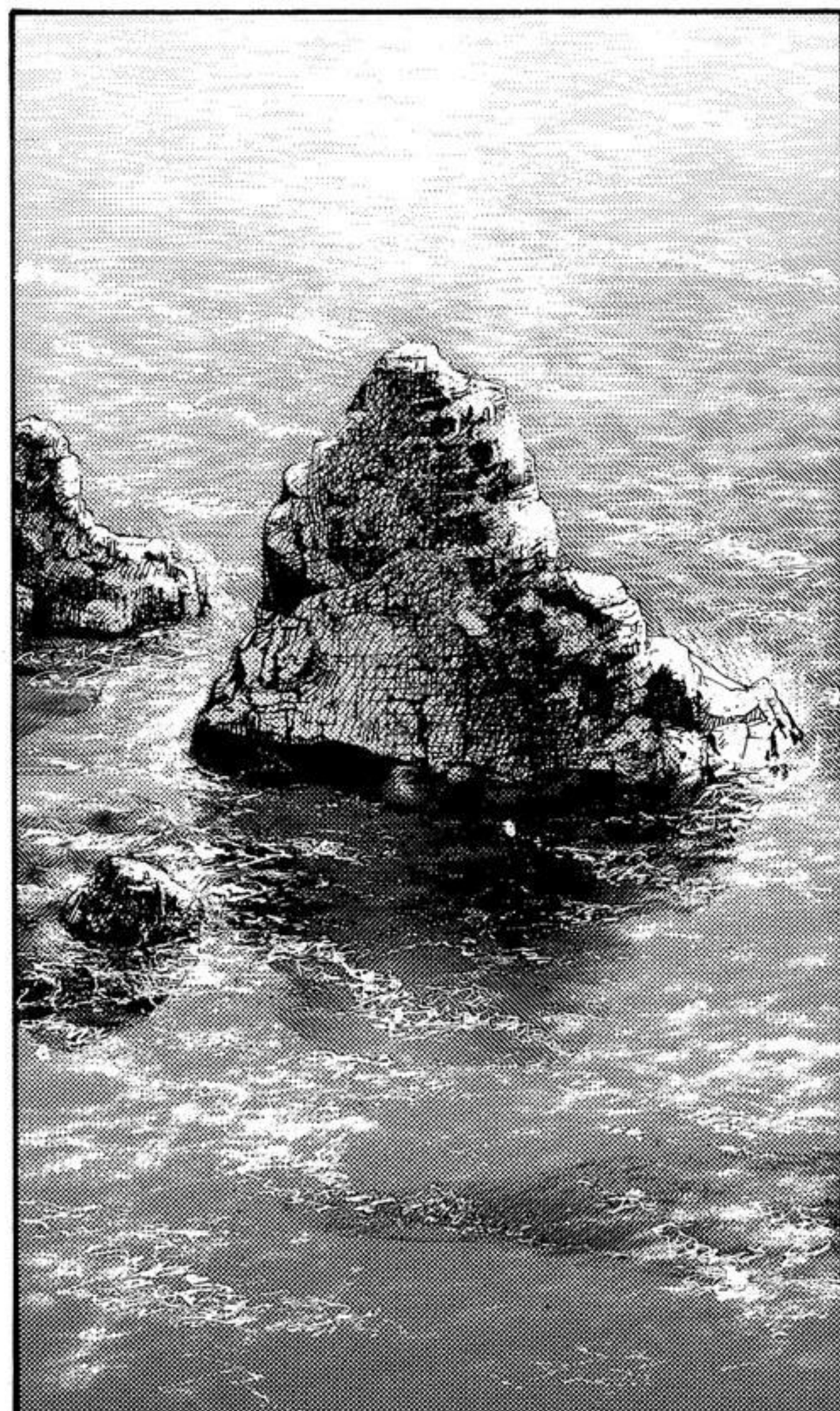
VRP

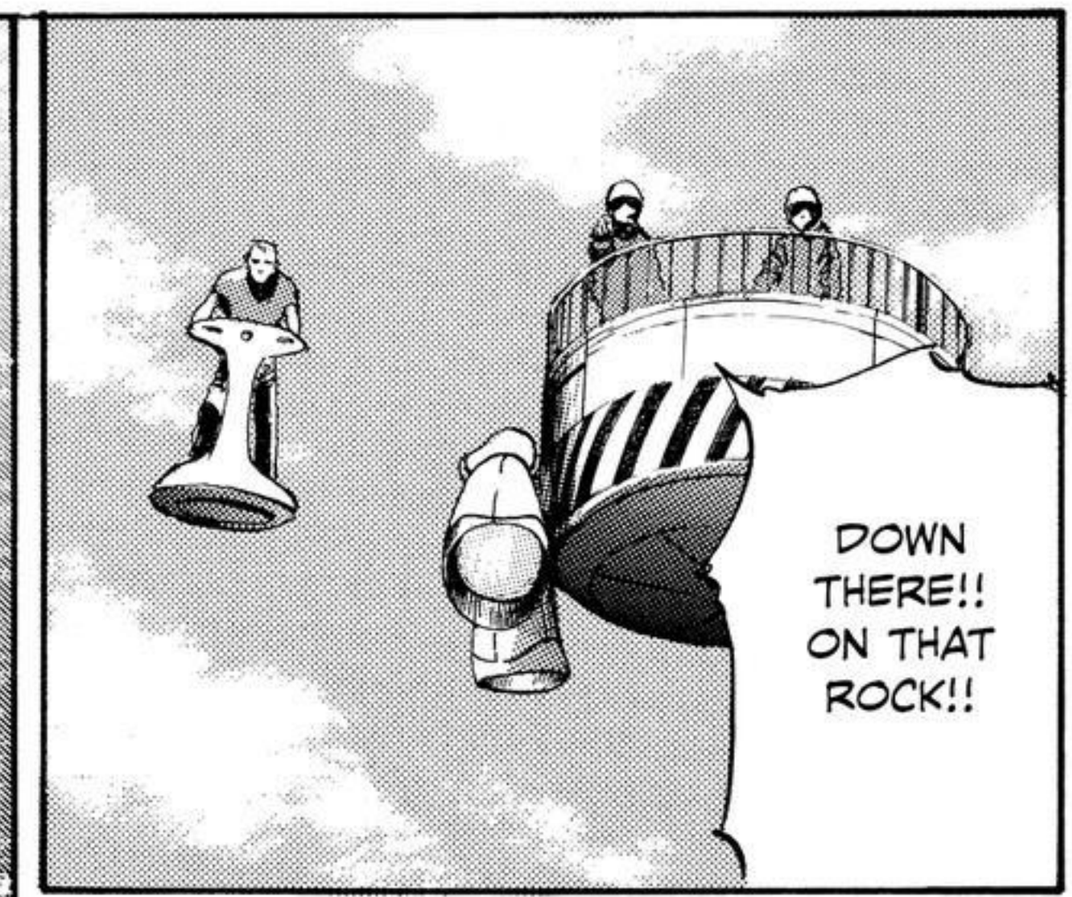
VRRRR
HERCULES! I NEED YOU TO FIGHT AGAIN!

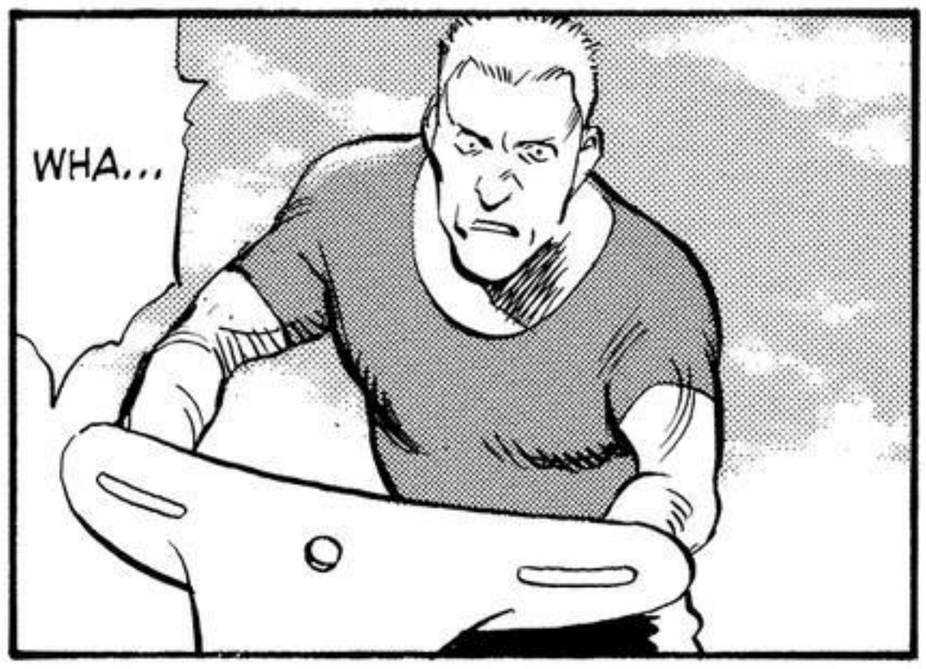

HERCULES ...

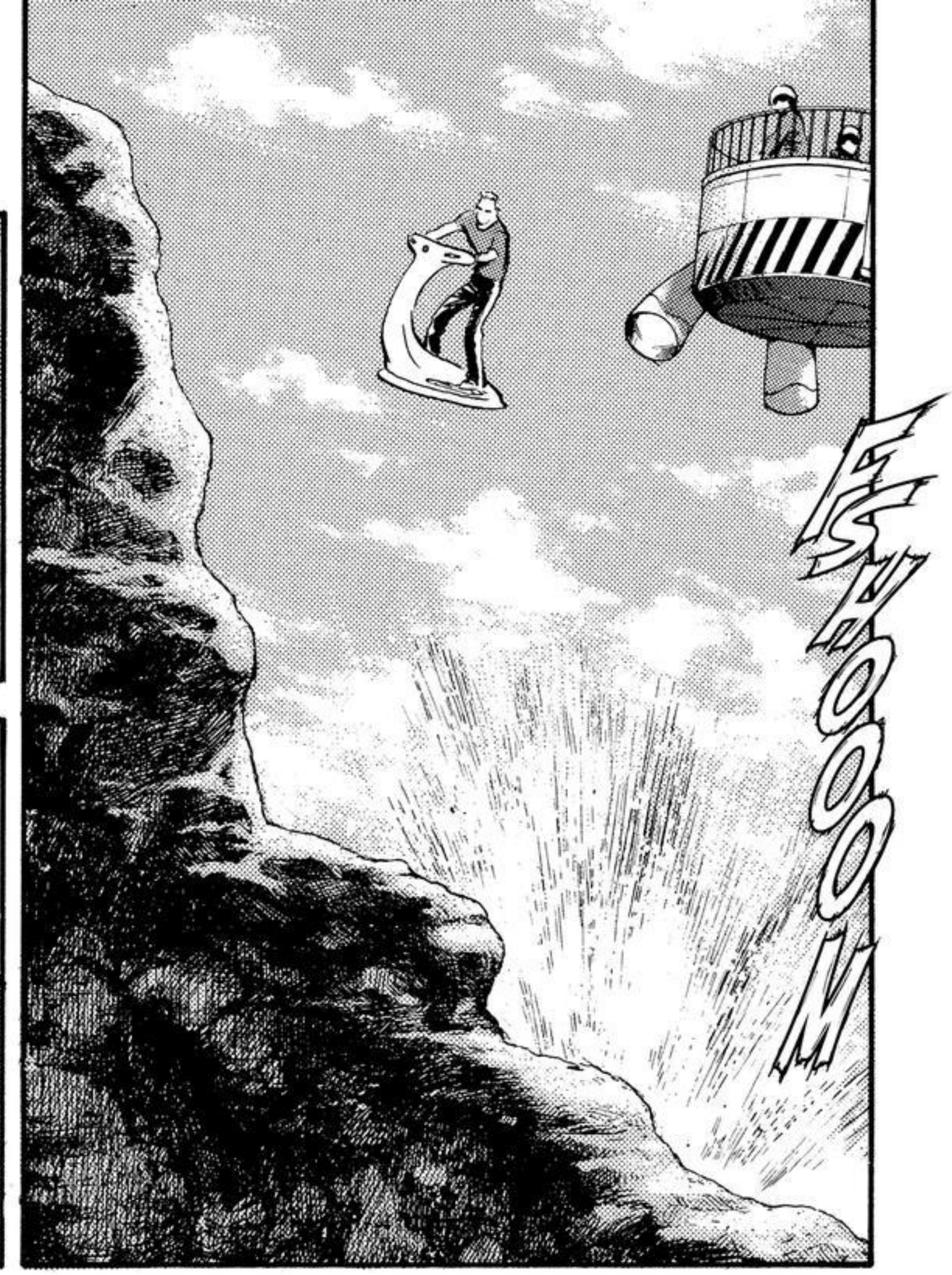

WHERE IS IT?!
FOLLOW US!

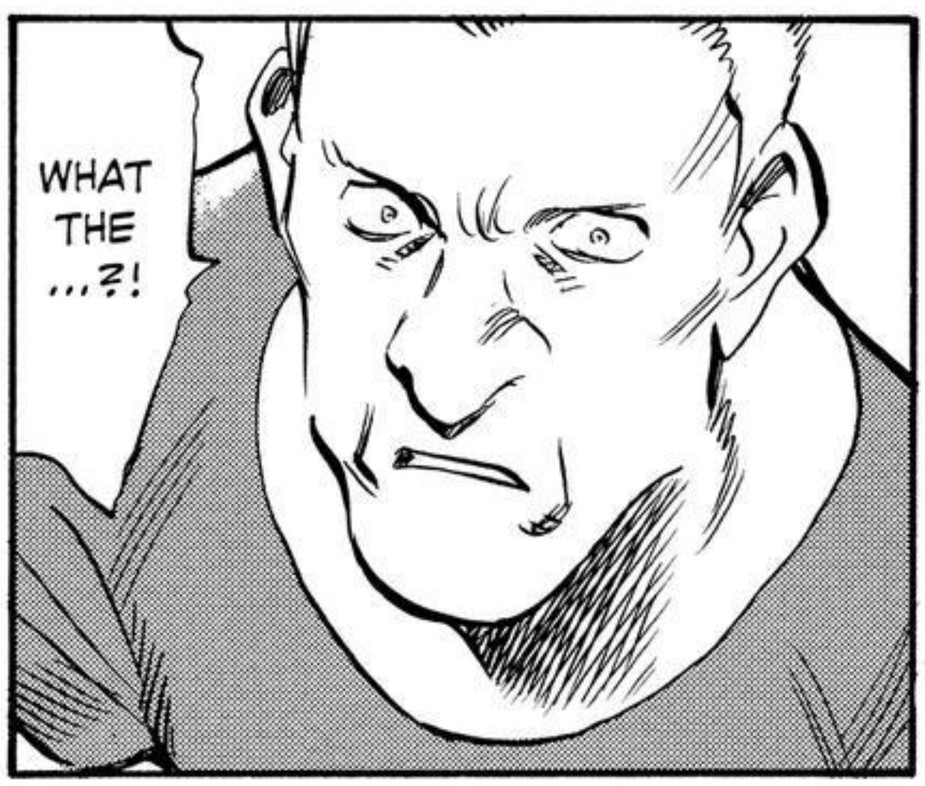





DOWN THERE!! ON THAT ROCK!!


WHA...


FSHOOM

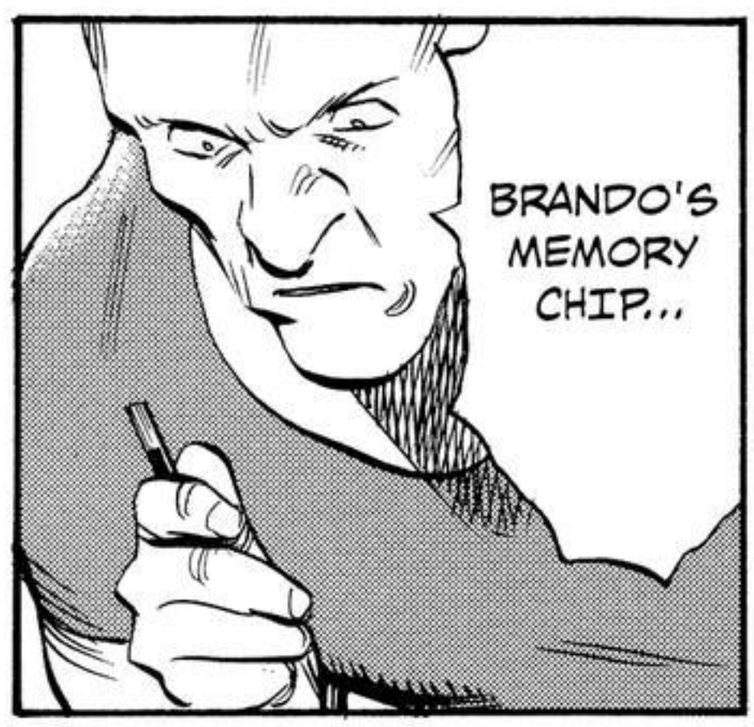

WHAT THE ...?!

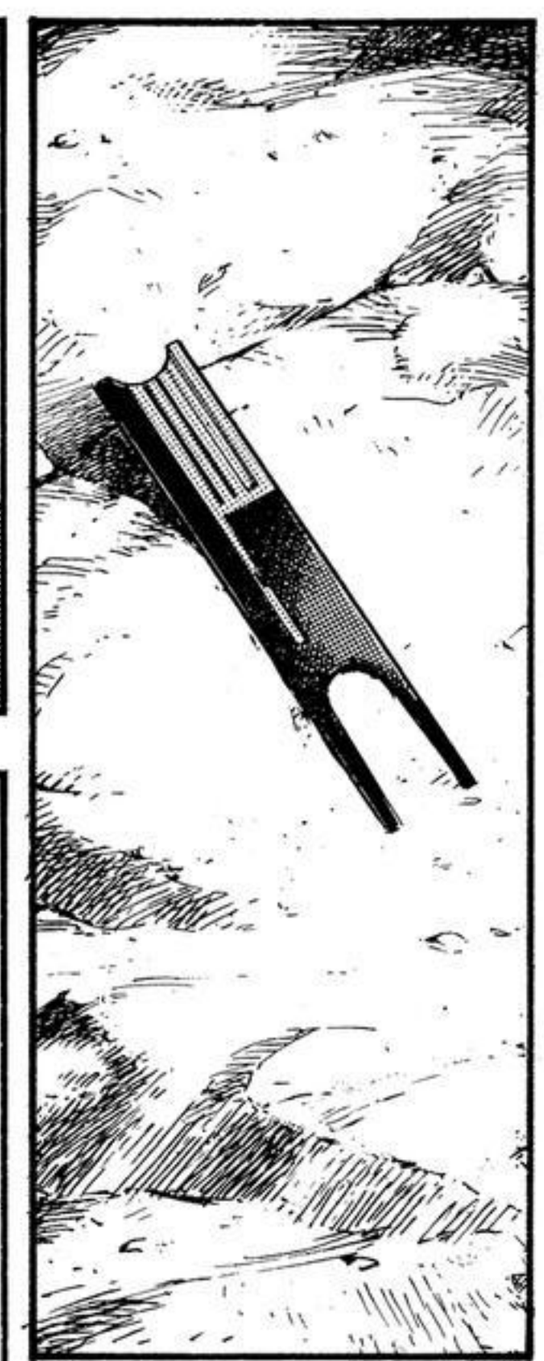
WHAT IN THE WORLD...?

CRNCH

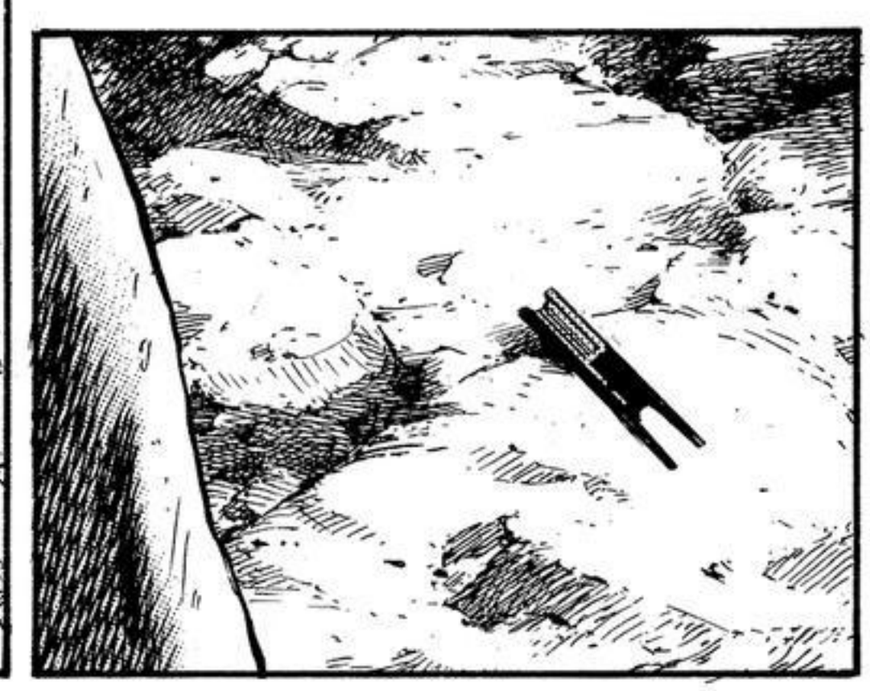
FSHHH

R
M
M
M

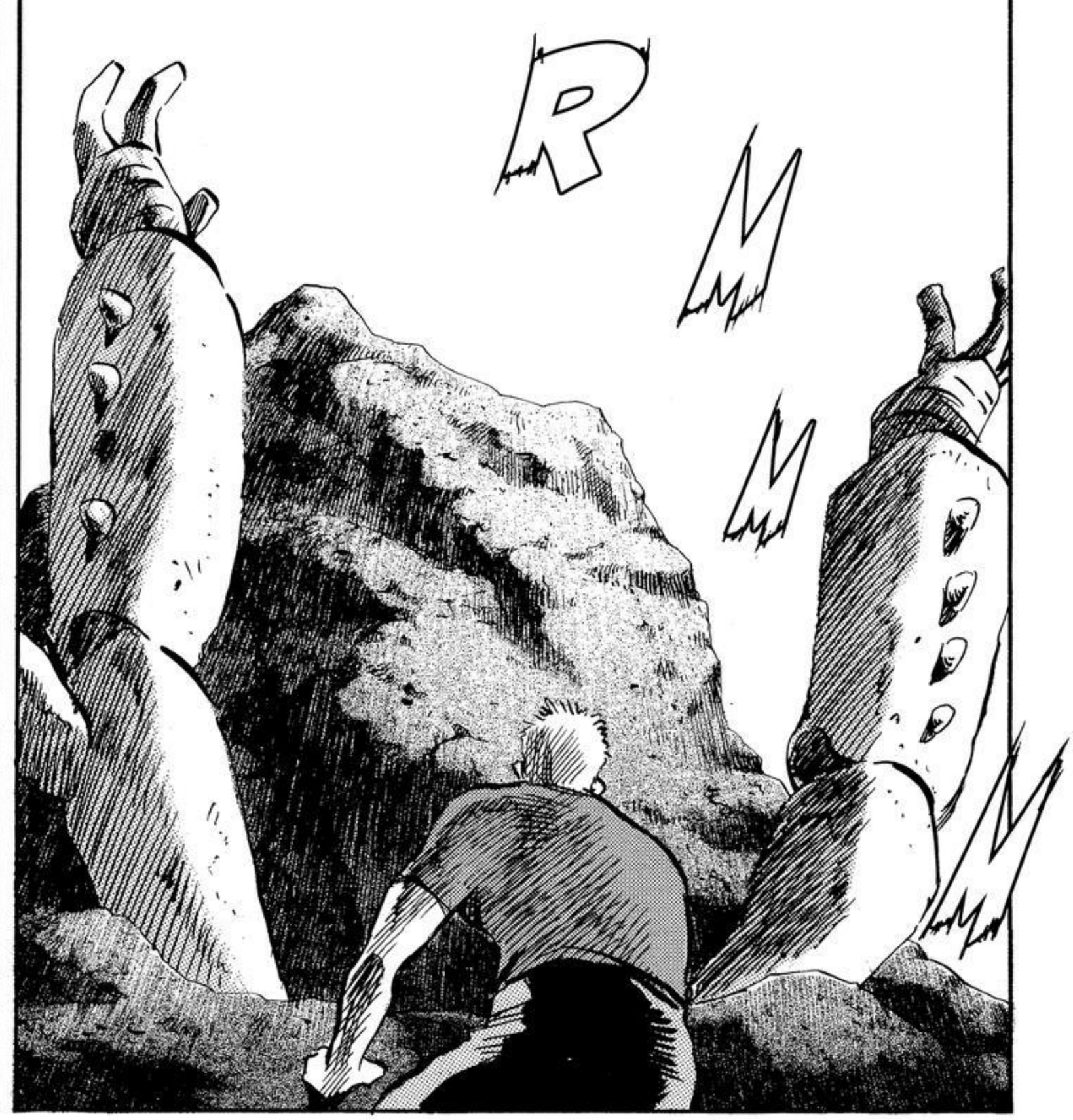

BRANDO'S MEMORY CHIP...



HORNS ...!



SO... WHOEVER DID THIS...
...ISN'T DEAD...

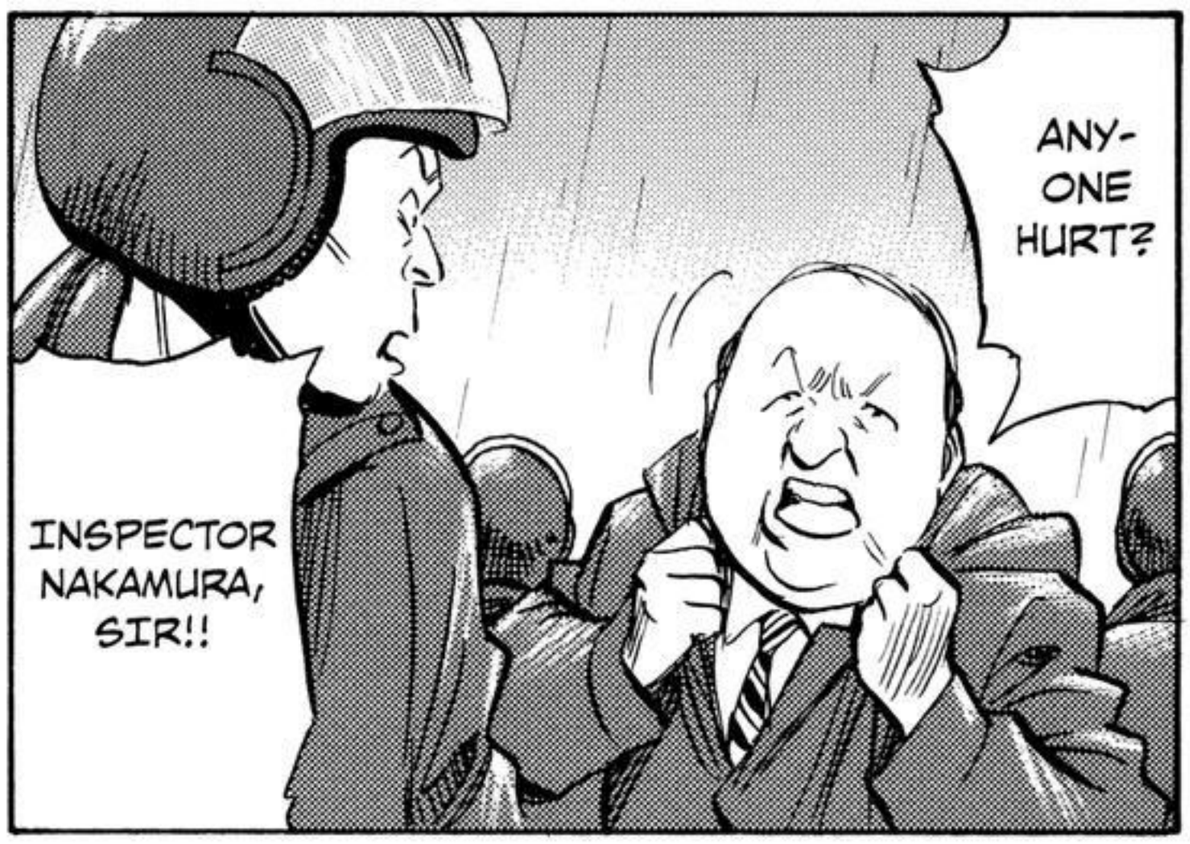

R
M
M

BRANDO!!

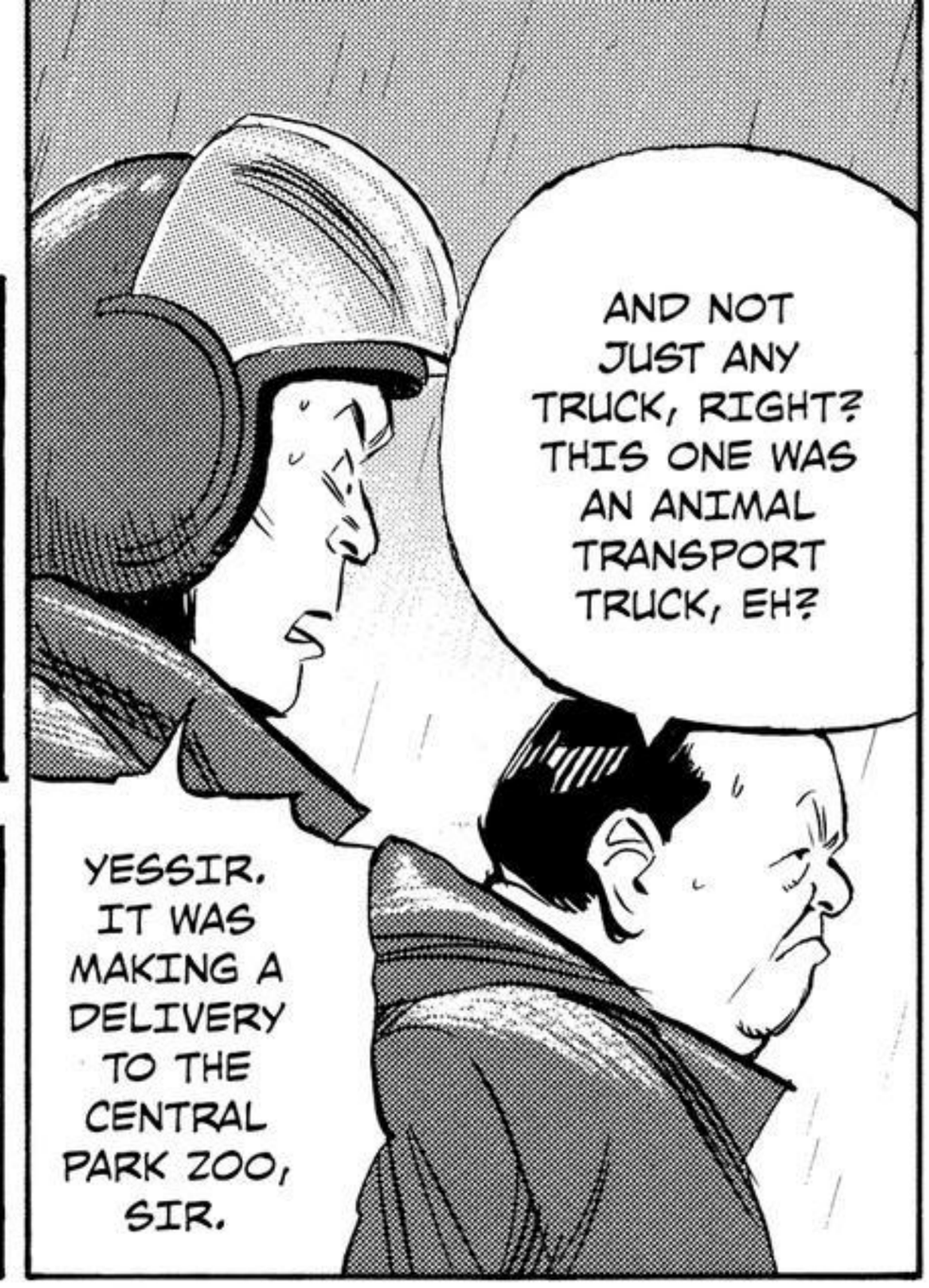
WEEOO

WEEOW

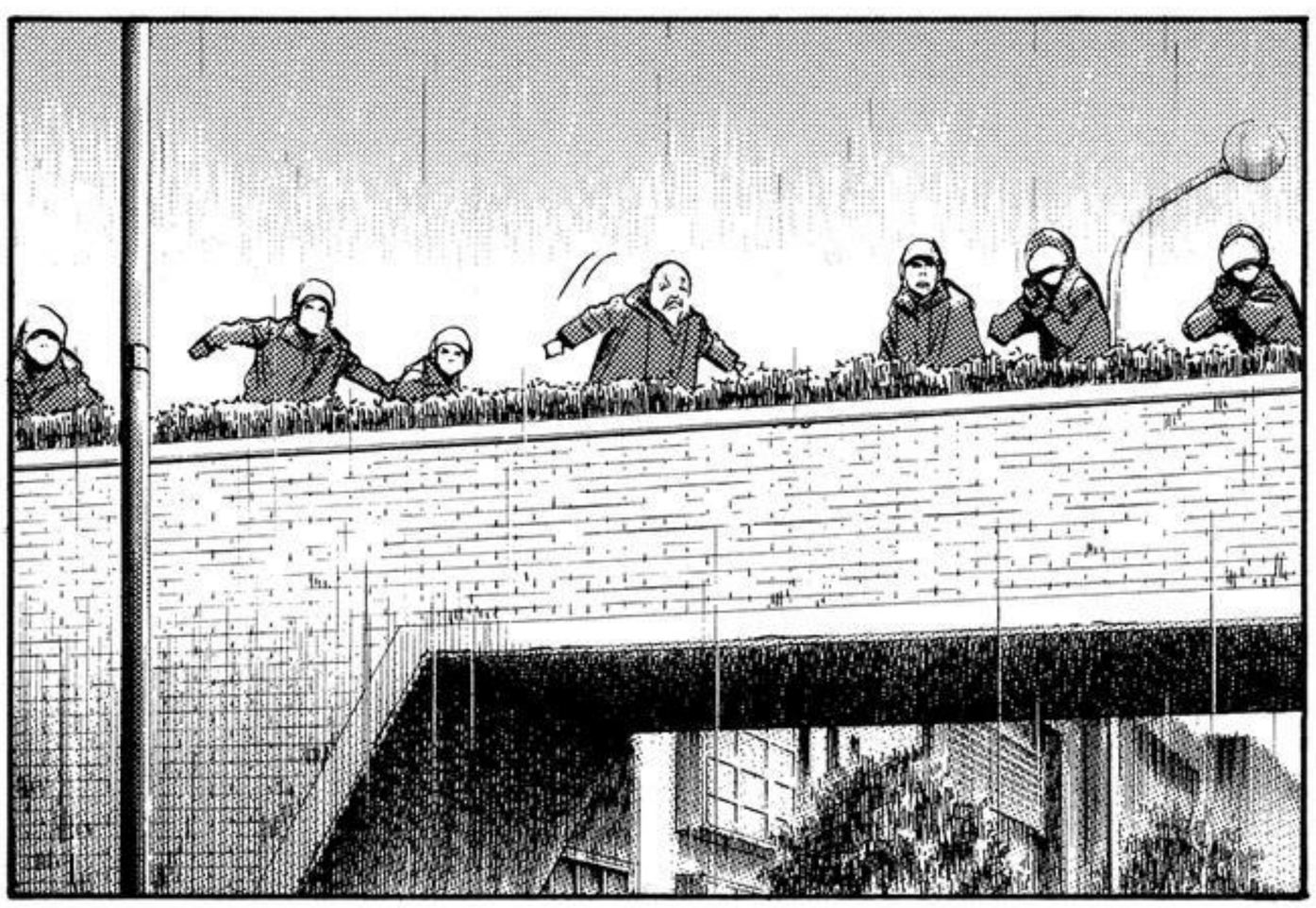
警視庁



TEN BIG CATS IN ALL...
LION, TIGERS, CHEETAHS...


AND NOT JUST ANY TRUCK, RIGHT? THIS ONE WAS AN ANIMAL TRANSPORT TRUCK, EH?
YESSIR. IT WAS MAKING A DELIVERY TO THE CENTRAL PARK ZOO, SIR.

TEN?!



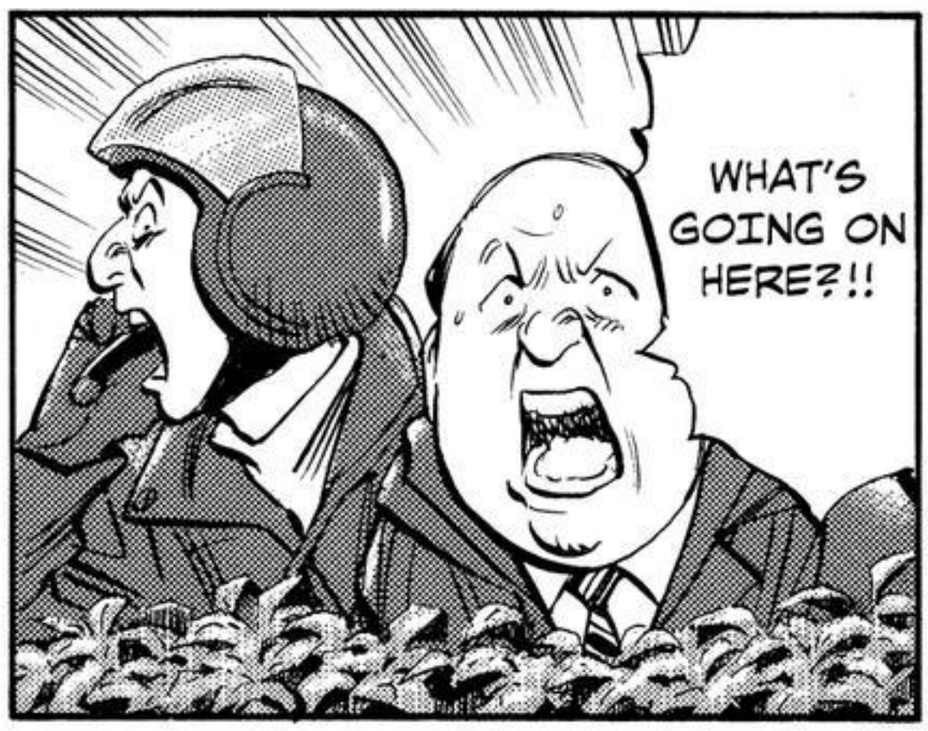
!!
INSPECTOR! WE'VE GOT A BIG PROBLEM! THERE'S A LITTLE KID DOWN THERE ...!!

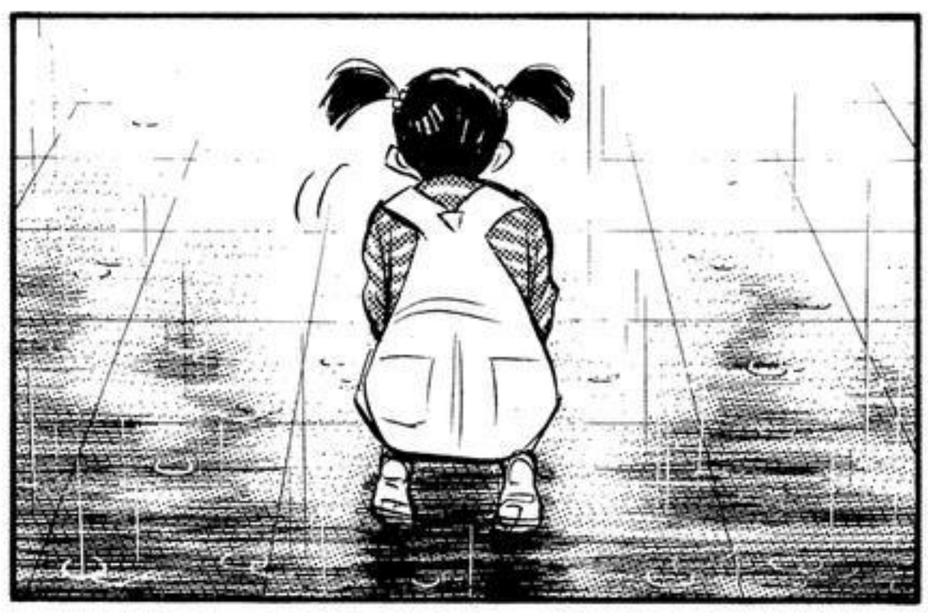
WAAH!

WAAHH!

WAIT, SIR!!!
BLAST IT! GET SOME MORE SHARP-SHOOTERS HERE!!

TO SAVE THE KID WE'D HAVE TO SIMULTA-NEOUSLY TAKE OUT ALL FIVE CATS, SIR!!
CAN'T YOU DO ANY-THING?!


WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?!!



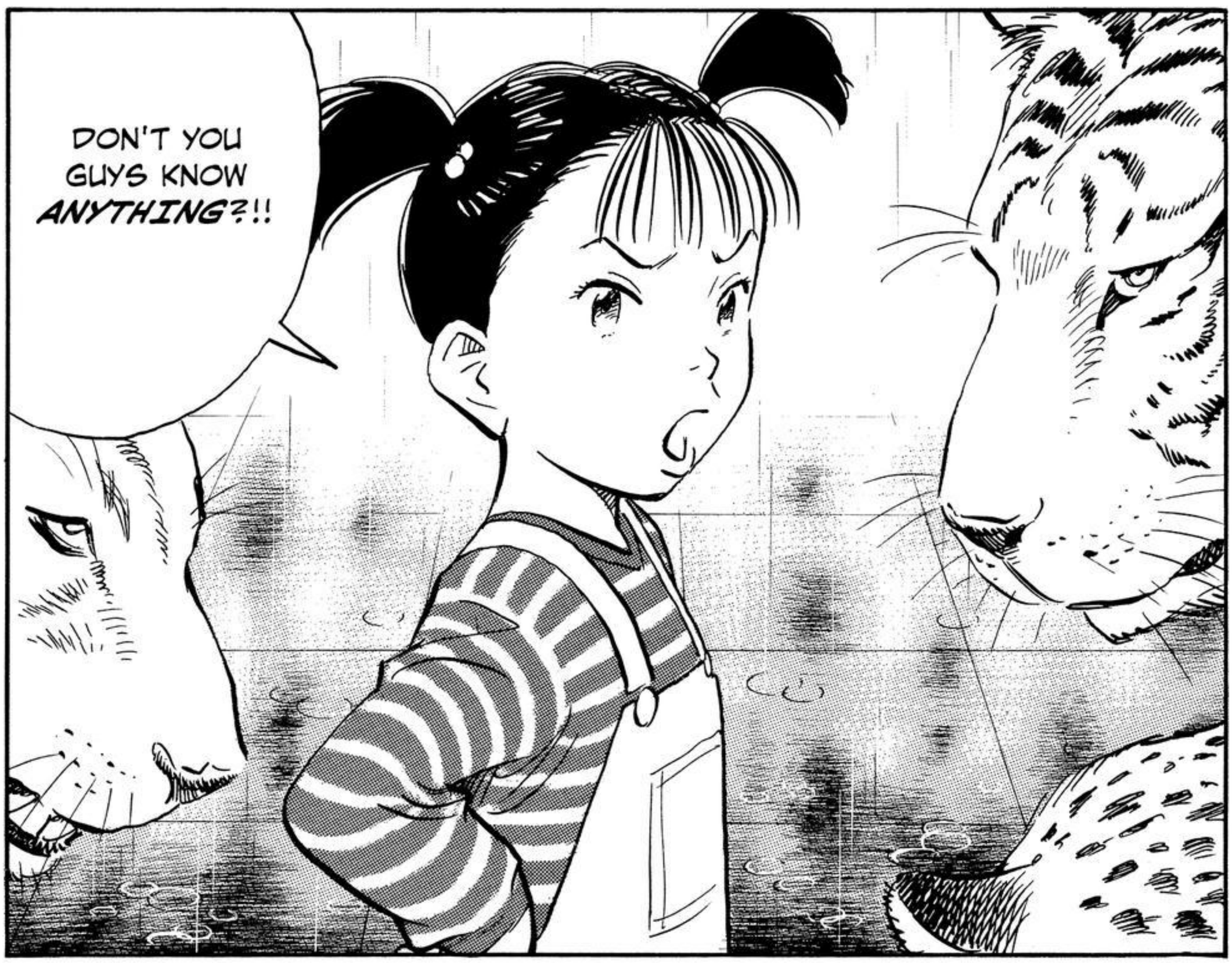
WHAT THE--?! A LITTLE GIRL'S CROSSED THE POLICE LINE!

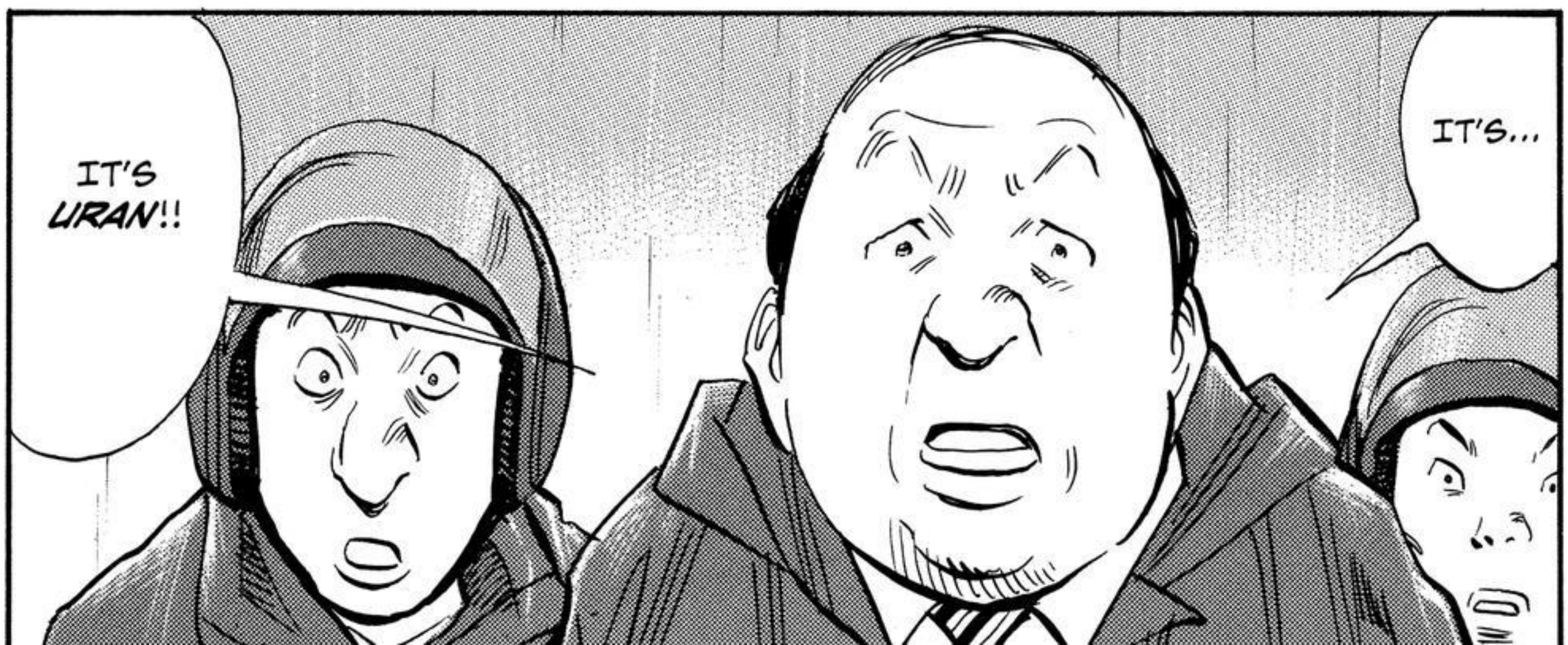
IT'S ALL RIGHT... COME... COME TO ME.
HERE, KITTY CATS... THERE'S NOTHING TO BE SCARED OF.

SNIFFLE ... WAAAH

?!
HEY! YOUR GUNS ARE SCARING THE KITTY CATS!!

SWOOP
WE'VE SECURED THE BOY!


DON'T YOU GUYS KNOW *ANYTHING*?!!


IT'S *URAN*!!
IT'S...

PLUTO: URASAWA × TEZUKA
VOLUME 7
VIZ SIGNATURE EDITION

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SUPERVISED BY Macoto Tezka
WITH THE COOPERATION OF Tezuka Productions

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Based on "Astro Boy" written by Osamu Tezuka

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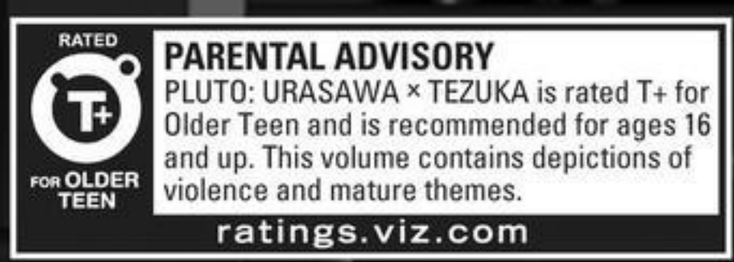
Printed in Canada

Published by VIZ Media, LLC
P.O. Box 77010
San Francisco, CA 94107

10 9 8
First printing, January 2010
Eighth printing, April 2023

www.viz.com

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